

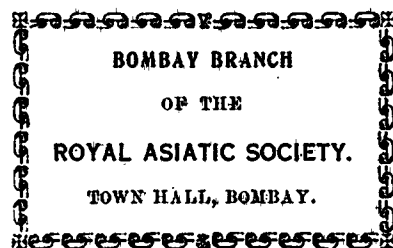
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND
RECORDS, BENGAL,
ON
SETTLEMENTS
FOR

The year ending 30th September 1897.

1895 to 1897
(1894-95 to 1896-97)



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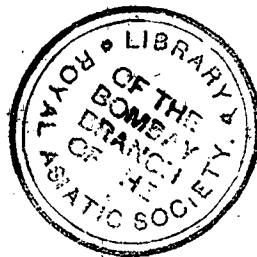
on 01 February, 2020

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND
RECORDS, BENGAL,

ON
SETTLEMENTS AND LAND RECORDS

FOR
The year ending 30th September 1895.—/8

133028



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CORRIGENDA

To the Annual Report of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal, for the year ending 30th September 1895.

Make the following corrections in column 7 of the statement on page 2 of the Report:—

	For Rs.	Substitute Rs.
Against Chittagong	1,36,187	1,40,406
„ Pataspur estates in Midnapore	8,751	8,809
„ Government estates in Shahabad	1,125	1,351
„ Total of settlements of land revenue in temporarily-settled estates and Government estates	3,77,505	3,82,008
„ Chiknikandi villages in Backergunge	Nil.	1,385
„ Total of survey and record of rights not connected with settlement of land revenue estates other than Wards' estates	2,58,514	2,59,899
Grand Total	6,91,247	6,97,135

Insert the word "reports" after "Settlement Officer" in the 10th line of paragraph 90 of the Report. At the end of the last sentence in paragraph 104 of the Report read "by the Settlement Officers" for "by the Settlement Officer's careful consideration."

2. On page 10, paragraph 38 of the Report read "Rs. 83,635" for "Rs. 83,207" in the second line, and make the same correction against Balasore in columns 25 and 26 of Appendix I, page II.

3. In line 2, page 27 of the Report read "Rs. 1,929-14-9" for "Rs. 1,936-6-9" and in columns 25 and 26 of Appendix I, page ii, substitute "1929" for "1936" against Chaurasi.

4. Make the following corrections in Appendix III to the Report:—

Balasore Report.

Page *xix*.—In the last paragraph "cost" make the following corrections:—

For "Rs. 83,224" in the first line read "Rs. 83,635."

For "Rs. 10,932" in the third line read "Rs. 10,521."

5. Make the following corrections in Appendix VIII to the Report:—

Muzaffarpur Report.

(1) Page *liv*.—In the last line of paragraph 1, add "this chapter of" after "brought under."

(2) In the 2nd line of paragraph 2, read "year" for "years."

(3) Page *lv*.—In the 25th line of paragraph 7 substitute "those" for "their."

(4) Page *lvi*.—In the 1st line of paragraph (10), sub-paragraph (2), read "arrears" for "areas."

(5) After "claims" in the 4th line of paragraph 12 add "Two other cases were also withdrawn on other grounds."

(6) Page *lix*.—After paragraph 22, sub-paragraph 1, add as sub-paragraph 2 "The large number and area of the holdings cultivated by proprietors are due to the great subdivision of proprietary rights among peasant proprietors who live more by cultivation than on the proceeds of their rent-rolls."

(7) In paragraph 25, fifth line, substitute for the full stop after "head-quarters" a comma, and read "there" for "There" in the same line.

(8) Page *lxi*.—Strike out the first two lines in column 3 of statement A, and read "Throughout the year" in their place.

(9) Read "medical" for "privilege" in the last but one sentence in column 5 of statement A.

(10) Page *lxiii*.—Substitute the following statement for statement D:—

D.—Return of Boundary Disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NUMBER INSTI- TUTED—			NUMBER DISPOSED OF—			NUMBER remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
	To the end of the pre- vious year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending from preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been —			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1. P. C. Lyon, Esq. ...	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. J. E. Phillimore, Esq. ...	...	...	...	...	27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. C. A. Bell, Esq. ...	...	...	...	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. R. B. Hughes, Esq. ...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. P. Lyall, Esq. ...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. C. C. Warburton, Esq. ...	...	...	...	...	96	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Babu Siva Sankar Singh ...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Mr. Dwija Das Datta ...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Maulavi Shah Mahamad Azam ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Babu Charu Chandra Kumar ...	...	...	...	...	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Maulavi Mahamad Yusuf Ali ...	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta ...	...	...	...	...	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. „ Rai Krishna Babadur ...	...	...	...	...	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Maulavi Syed Ali Mazhar ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15. Mr. Ram Komal Gupta ...	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. „ Sorab S. Day ...	...	...	...	...	37	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17. Babu Chinta Haran Chatterji ...	...	...	...	...	92	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. „ Khetra Bhusan Pershad ...	...	...	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	891	376	1,267	837	406	1,243	24	71	67	62	3 (1 by compromise).	2	

(11) Put an * over "1032" in column 6 of statement E, and in column 18 of the same statement enter with an *, the following :—
 "The figures in columns 6, 7, 8, 9 and 14 refer to an area previously dealt with and not included in columns 3, 4 and 5."

(12) *Page lxiv.*—From the heading of column 3 of statement H strike out the portion following the word "previous" in the 2nd line, and for it substitute the word "year" and from the heading of column 10 of the same statement strike out the portion following the word "instituted."

6. Make the following corrections in Appendix IX to the Report:—

Champaran Report.

- (1) *Page lxxiii.*—Read "the" for "its" in the first line of paragraph 3.
- (2) *Page lxix.*—In the fourteenth line of paragraph 3 substitute "lands on produce rents" for "batai lands."
- (3) *Page lxxii.*—Read "acre" for "area" in the heading of column 9 of the statement given in paragraph 22.
- (4) *Page lxxv.*—Insert "591" as total of column 10 of statement C.
- (5) *Page lxxviii.*—Read "excluding" for "including" in the headings of columns 30, 38, and 54 of statement J.
- (6) *Page lxxix.*—Read "438 villages" for "43 villages" in statement L wherever it occurs.

7. Make the following corrections in Appendix X to the Report:—

Saran Report.

- (1) *Pages lxxvii and lxxviii.*—In the headings of columns 4 and 15 of Statement D and column 3 of Statement F insert the word "year" after "previous" occurring in the first line, and strike out the portions of the headings thereafter following.
- (2) From the heading of column 10 of Statement F strike out the portion following the word "instituted."

8. Make the following corrections in Appendix XIV to the Report:—

Gaya Report.

Page cx.—Substitute "pulse" for "millet" in the first line of paragraph 26.
Page cxii.—In the heading of columns 9 to 13 of Statement D read "year" for "month."
Page cxiv.—Substitute "per" for "for" in column 19, "acre" for "area" in columns 19, 27, 35 and 15, and "excluding" for "including" in column 28 of Statement J.

W. G. MACPHERSON,

Director of the Department of Land Records and
 Agriculture, Bengal.

CALCUTTA,

The 10th December, 1895. }

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND
RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE, BENGAL, ON SETTLEMENTS
AND LAND RECORDS FOR THE YEAR FROM 1st OCT. 1894
TO 30TH SEPT. 1895.

No. 3225S.

FROM W. C. MACPHERSON, Esq., c.s.,

Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal,

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

LOWER PROVINCES.

Dated Calcutta, the 18th November 1895.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the Report on Settlements and Land Records under the control of the Director of Land Records for the year ending 30th September 1895. This is the fifth Report of this Department which has been submitted for the survey and settlement year which ends 30th September. A brief Report on settlements for the year ending 31st March 1895 was submitted with my letter No. 342T.S., dated 17th June 1895, and was the tenth Report of this Department submitted for the financial year. The orders of Government and the Board, which are in force with regard to submission of the two annual Reports of this Department for the financial and administrative year, are contained in Government letter No. 147T.—R., dated 7th June 1894.

The Report is arranged in the same manner as the Report for the year ending 30th September 1894 under the orders quoted in paragraph 2 of that Report.

CHAPTER I.

GENERAL SUMMARY AND GENERAL REMARKS.

2. Operations in connections with record of rights and rents and settlement of revenue were in progress during the year under report under the supervision of the Director of Land Records in the areas shown in the following statement, which also shows progress made under the heads of (1) record-writing, (2) attestation, (3) settlement of rents, (4) records finally published, and (5) total expenditure incurred under the head of settlement

(exclusive of expenditure of the Survey Department, but inclusive of expenditure of the Settlement Department on survey, record-writing, &c.):—

Settlements under the control of the Director of Land Records in the year, 1st October 1894 to 30th September 1895, and progress made.

NAME OF SETTLEMENT.	Area under settlement of revenue or record of rights.	Area in square miles for which initial records were written (i.e. khana-puri completed) during 1894-95.	Area in square miles for which records were attested and existing rents recorded in 1894-95.	Number of tenants for whom rents were settled in 1894-95.	Area in square miles for which final records were published in 1894-95.	Total expenditure of the Settlement Department during the year 1894-95.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Tenants.	Sq. miles.	Rs.
SETTLEMENTS OF LAND REVENUE IN TEMPORARILY-SETTLED ESTATES AND GOVERNMENT ESTATES.						
<i>Major Settlements.</i>						
Orissa ... { Puri	1,089.04	Nil	13.05	None	Nil	Nil
... { Cuttack	2,273.38	4.97	681.38	8,630	Nil	1,10,185
... { Balasore	1,733.11	5	1,022.00	None	Nil	83,207
Chittagong	1,905.59	57.93	19.25	80,997	412	1,36,187
Palamau Government estate	293.15	161.48	260.53	None	Nil	15,841
Darjeeling Terai	238.00	215.00	Nil	None	Nil	2,632
<i>Minor Settlements.</i>						
Pataspur estates in Midnapore	54.70	Nil	54.70	None	Nil	8,751
Jaipur estates in Bogra	55.50	Nil	2.42	None	Nil	6,606
Backergunge Government estates	64.02	53.48	...	936	10.70	12,971
Government Estates in Gaya	88.00	88.00	5.60	None	Nil	...
Ditto ditto Shahabad	18.75	9.4	7.27	None	Nil	1,125
Total ...	7,813.24	559.95	2,066.69	90,563	423.70	3,77,505
SURVEY AND RECORD OF RIGHTS NOT CONNECTED WITH SETTLEMENT OF LAND REVENUE ESTATES OTHER THAN WARD'S ESTATES.						
<i>Major Operations.</i>						
North Bihar ... { Muzaffarpur	3,070	938	746	3,241	250	1,28,342
... { Champaran	3,531	1,176	491	17,896	400	67,670
... { Saran	2,653	Nil	487	19,783	14	36,460
Chakla Roshnabad (estates of Maharaja of Hill Tippera) in Tippera and Noakhali ...	555.56	Nil	89.40	132	Nil	33,268
<i>Minor Operations.</i>						
Chaurasi (Maharaja Durga Charan Law's estate) in the 24 Parganas	33	33.00	Nil	None	Nil	1,936
Tantibunia in Khulna	20	20	Nil	None	Nil	Nil
Chikrikandi villages in Backergunge	5.45	...	...	...	...	Nil
Palpara estates in Tippera	3.19	Nil	3.19	None	Nil	446
Gangamandal in Tippera	1.16	27	1.16	None	Nil	392
Total ...	9,872.36	2,167.27	1,817.34	41,052	663	2,58,514
SURVEY AND RECORD OF RIGHTS IN WARD'S ESTATES.						
Burdwan Raj (Burdwan	76.82	6.05	0.255	None	} 45	11,578
Khas Mahals { Hooghly	13.47	3.98	3.143	33		
in { Bankura	39.01	Nil	22.551	None		
Dakhin Shahbazpur in Backergunge	146.53	Nil	Nil	None	3	7,663
Srirampur in Backergunge	9.13	33	9.07	1,481	1	2,853
Tikari Estate in Gaya and Patna districts ...	475.06	69.00	317.73	111	None	33,104
Total ...	760.07	79.36	352.549	1,630	49	55,228
GRAND TOTAL ...	18,445.67	2,836.58	4,237.079	133,245	1,136.70	6,91,247

The progress made will be examined in detail in the paragraphs dealing with each settlement.

Staff of Settlement Officers and Assistant Settlement Officers employed under the Director of Land Records during the year.

as follows:—

On 1st January 1895 11 Settlement Officers and 65 Assistant Settlement Officers; and on 1st April 1895 10 Settlement Officers and 64 Assistant Settlement Officers. These numbers do not include the Managers of the Kanika Wards' Estate Mr. Sakhawat Hussain, who was engaged partly on settlement work and partly in management work and do not include Babu Kali Sankar Sen, the revising Deputy Collector in Sarail.

4. The completion reports for Mollarpur pargana, the Western Duars, the Sujamutha Estate in Midnapore, the Sarail Estate in Tippera, Char Gazi and Fakira in Noakhali, the Hardia villages in Champaran, the Ulania taluks and the Koralmara, Lalmohan and Padmamanasha estates in Backergunge, and Talipabad estate in Dacca were submitted by me during the year.

Completion reports submitted by the Director during the year.

3. The number of Settlement Officers and Assistant Settlement Officers employed under the Director of Land Records on 1st January and 1st April 1895, when work was at its maximum, was

Completion reports having been submitted by me in previous years for the Kujang and Sarail estates, the revision operations in progress in those estates during the year are not included in the statement given in paragraph 3, but are noticed in Chapter V, which deals with the maintenance of records of rights and rents.

5. In Khurda Government estate in Puri the maps and records for some 1,300 villages, containing a total area of about 870 square miles, have to be revised. Proposals have been submitted for the conduct of this work.
- New surveys and settlements for which preliminary arrangements were made during the year.
- Khurda.
- Arrangements were made for the survey and the preparation of a record of rights with respect to 66 villages in Monghyr and 1 village in Patna belonging to the Narhan ward's estate.
- Narhan.

GENERAL REMARKS ON SETTLEMENT QUESTIONS DEALT WITH DURING THE YEAR. .

6. Important matters of a general nature, touching principles and procedure in survey and settlement work and orders passed during the year, will now be noticed.
- Important questions of procedure and principle discussed and decided during the year.

7. A conference of Settlement Officers was held at Darjeeling during the Durga Puja holidays from 5th to 15th October. Messrs. Colvin, Maude, Allen, Cumming, and Sunder, and the Director of Land Records were present. The chief matters discussed were the Bill for the maintenance of settlement records, which eventually became Act III (B.C.) of 1895; apportionment and recovery of cost of survey and settlement proceedings among landlords and tenants; attestation work and settlement of rents; the absence of overt control on the part of the executive over settlement of rents, which is a feature of the Bengal Tenancy Act; the absence of effectual power of review of proceedings of officers settling fair rents under Chapter X of the Tenancy Act; case-work under section 106 of the Tenancy Act; audit and control of settlement accounts.
- Conference of Settlement Officers at Darjeeling in October 1894.

8. The Survey and Settlement Manuals of 1888 were revised during the year by Mr. E. W. Collin, c.s., who was placed on special duty for this work. These two Manuals have been made into one Manual. Short rules for petty surveys and settlements were also drawn up by Mr. Collin. The revised Manual and short rules were submitted to the Board with my letters Nos. 1875S and 1885S, dated respectively the 25th and 27th June 1895 and again with my letter No. 2933, dated 15th October 1895. The revised Manual has been issued for the guidance of Settlement Officers in season 1895-96.
- Revision of the Survey and Settlement Manuals and compilation of short rules for petty surveys and settlements.

9. During the year a selection of headnotes of rulings of the Hon'ble High Court of Calcutta from 1889 to 1894 important to Settlement Officers in Bengal was made and circulated. Headnotes of later rulings down to August 1895 have also been circulated at intervals during the year.
- High Court rulings from 1889 to 1895 important to Settlement Officers collected.

10. A compilation of the circulars of the Board of Revenue from April 1892 to May 1895 relating to survey and settlement matters was made during the year and circulated to Settlement Officers.
- Compilation of circulars of the Board of Revenue relating to survey and settlement.

11. Revised rules for initial record-writing were drawn up for Bihar and for attestation in Orissa. Special rules were approved by the Director of Land Records for the initial record-writing in the Darjeeling Terai, in Chaurasi Estate in the 24-Parganas and for Tantibunia Estate in Khulna and for attestation work in Pataspur Estate in Midnapore. Rules for tirij-writing were drawn up for Chittagong, and rules for tirij-writing and tabulation of assets for Orissa.
- Special rules for record-writing, attestation, tirij-writing, and tabulation of assets.

12. The assimilation of the working khatian slip form to the parcha form (given to landlords and tenants at the time of initial record-writing) and the elaboration of a form of continuous khatian, were the principal improvements made in settlement forms during the year. The standard khewat forms and tirij forms were also revised, and the milankhasra and crop statement forms were revised with special reference to the requirements of the Imperial Agricultural Statistics. A revised form of Village note was also devised and has been incorporated in the new Survey and Settlement Manual.

13. Much attention has been given to the subject of the nomenclature and numbering of villages in the survey and settlement records and to connecting the new maps and records with the maps of the old revenue Survey village, with the Collector's mauzawar register, and with the Boundary Commissioner's lists of villages. There being three separate sequences of existing numbers for villages, it is desirable to consider to what extent those numbers should be recognized in the maps and records of the present operations. Enquiries have been made, and statistics are being collected as to the number of revenue survey villages in each district and the number of villages entered in the Collector's mauzawar register C.

14. The subject of the arrangements most suitable for record-writing in large villages was discussed during the year, and a summary of correspondence on this subject was circulated to Settlement Officers in Bihar with Director's printed note dated 15th October 1894. There was a general consensus of opinion as to the disadvantages which attend record-writing being done by more than one amin in a village. It is understood that in the Central Provinces only one khasra and one sequence of numbers are allowed for the village, whatever its size may be. The number of fields in a village in the Central Provinces is, however, very much less than in an average village in these provinces.

15. Reference was made in paragraph 9 of my Report for the year ending 30th September 1894 to the subject of "disputed entries." The rule ultimately sanctioned by Government in orders No. 601L.R., dated 30th January 1895, was to the effect that in case of disputes at the stage of initial record-writing no entries shall be made in khasra, khewat, or khatians by amins until order has been passed by a Revenue Officer, when the amin will write up the records in accordance with the order. If disputes with regard to tenancy remain undecided by a Revenue Officer up to the time of completion of initial record-writing, no parcha will be given to any person for plots in dispute.

Rules for disposal of village boundary disputes drawn up during the year have been incorporated in Chapter V of Part II of the revised Survey and Settlement Manual.

16. The question as to the extent to which it is necessary or desirable that record of special conditions and incidents of tenancy should be made in framing a record of rights under the Tenancy Act was discussed during the year with special reference to a representation made by the Manager of the Bettiah Raj and by the Bihar Planters' Association as to the necessity of entry of rights in trees in the settlement khatians. The Government ruled that in the case of fruit trees which produce annually, the division of the produce should be recorded. Similarly, in the case of groves, where the trees are really the produce of the field, as it produces little or nothing else, and is given up to and rented for that object, the right to cut the trees and to share the value of the timber should be entered in the khatian by the Attestation Officer. With regard to isolated trees in a field or on the border of a field, the Government orders direct Settlement Officers not to enter on the question of right to cut such trees or receive a share of the value when fallen or cut. The general principle which commended itself to Government was that the primary business of the Settlement Department is to confine the record of rights to essentials, and to keep out of it any extraneous matter which may bear some relation to a tenancy, but is not, properly speaking, an "incident" of the tenancy. The right to plant trees or to dig tanks is not to be recorded.

With regard to entry of the right to transfer tenancies, Government declined to issue instructions. If the Settlement Officer chooses to take the trouble of making such entries he may do so, but it should not be enjoined on him as a duty (Director's circular No. 50S., dated 12th June 1895).

17. Instructions approved by the Legal Remembrancer were issued in Director's Circular No. 10S, dated 8th February 1895, explaining under what circumstances after application filed under section 104 of the Bengal Tenancy Act, but subsequently abandoned or dismissed rents must be *settled*, and under what circumstances rents may be merely *recorded*.

18. Information as to transfers of tenant right and proprietary right was collected under the orders of Government during attestation proceedings in a number of settlements. The figures collected will be separately reviewed.

19. The subject of the proper interpretation of the term "prevailing rate" of rent, to which attention was drawn in paragraph 21 of my Report for the year ending 1893-94, continues to be much discussed. In connection with the report on the completion of the settlement of the Hardia villages in Champaran, the Board called upon me to cite rulings under the old law which support the view of the term "prevailing rate" which was commended to Settlement Officers in Government orders No. 127T. —R. dated 6th June 1894. I have recently reported at length on this subject, and have submitted that the interpretation of the law which in village A of 200 acres would permit enhancement of rents, because 101 acres pay one and the same rate, say of Rs. 2-8 an acre, but in village B, where 199 acres pay rents varying from Rs. 2-8 to Rs. 10 an acre, allows no enhancement of the rent of the 200th acre paying 2 annas only, because 101 acres are not to be found paying one and the same rate, is inequitable.

20. The question of the landlord's right to additional rent for lands found by survey to be in excess of the area entered against a tenant's name in the landlord's rent-roll or in the tenant's rent receipt was further discussed during the year. With reference to the remarks made in paragraph 12 of the Government Resolution on my Report for the year ending 30th September 1894, to the effect that the principles on which contested suits of this class should be decided are in a very unsatisfactory state, and ought probably to be clearly laid down by legislation, I called for reports from Settlement Officers. The reports received are now under my consideration.

21. The question whether a Revenue Officer acting under Chapter X of the Tenancy Act is bound in all cases to decree enhanced rents in accordance with terms of compromise between landlords and tenants, or whether he has a discretion to settle a lower rent either with or without taking evidence, was discussed during the year with special reference to some fair rent cases decided in Champaran. The subject is now under the consideration of the Board.

22. A somewhat kindred question with regard to the duty of Revenue Officers acting under Chapter X of the Tenancy Act in the matter of giving effect to rent contracts made between landlords and tenure-holders was discussed with reference to cases which came before Mr. Baroda Charan Mitra, Settlement Officer (in 1894), in Tippera. The reports submitted on this question are also before the Board.

23. Questions were raised and discussed during the year, *first*, as to whether a Special Judge has power to admit an application for a review of a judgment which he has given in appeal against a fair rent decision given by a Revenue Officer under Chapter X of the Tenancy Act; *second*, whether a Revenue Officer has power under section 107 of the Tenancy Act to review his own fair rent decisions. The Law Officers on the one hand expressed the opinion that the admission by a Special Judge of an application for review is illegal, as the provisions of the Civil Procedure Code relating to reviews are not made applicable by the terms of section 108 of the Tenancy Act to the proceedings of Special Judges in hearing appeals under

that section. Opinion was also expressed by the Law Officers to the effect that Revenue Officers empowered under Chapter X of the Tenancy Act are incompetent to review their own fair rent decisions. The Legal Remembrancer further advised that the Local Government cannot make a rule under section 107 of the Tenancy Act conferring powers of review upon Special Judges and on Revenue Officers. On the contrary three Special Judges—Messrs. A. E. Staley, F. E. Pargiter, and C. P. Caspersz—have advised that Special Judges and Revenue Officers possess the same powers of review as are possessed by civil courts. It was the unanimous opinion of the Settlement Officers who conferred in October 1894 that the provisions of Chapter XLVII of the Civil Procedure Code in the subject of review are wholly insufficient to meet the requirements of settlement work, and that it is desirable that Government should take power by legislation to order review of settlement proceedings and revision of records of rights when proper cause be shown.

24. The subject of Court-fees to be levied in proceedings under the Bengal Tenancy Act was mentioned in paragraph 18 of my Report for the year ending 30th September 1894. Notifications Nos. 5086S.R. and 5087S.R., dated 11th October 1894, issued by the Government of India, limit the Court-fee leviable on applications for settlement of rent under section 104 of the Tenancy Act, except in connection with a settlement of the land revenue, to 8 annas for each tenant affected by the application; petitions under section 106 of the Tenancy Act are to be stamped *ad valorem*; other petitions presented before publication of the draft record are exempted from Court-fee. Some further correspondence on the subject of Court-fees in proceedings under the Tenancy Act passed during the year. A proposal made by Mr. P. C. Lyon, c.s., that the Court-fee leviable on an application for settlement of a fair rent should be reduced to 2 annas, was disallowed on the ground that 8 annas for each tenancy is not an excessive fee in such cases. A proposal made by the Director of Land Records that, in view of the fact that it is the duty of the Revenue Officer to proceed of his own motion to settle a fair rent when there is alteration of area, no fee at all should be levied when the application is made solely on this ground was also disallowed. The Board and the Government held that in this matter there is no difference between applications for increase of rent on the ground of prevailing rates and applications for settlement of rent on the ground of alteration of area.

The question how petitions instituting cases under section 106 of the Tenancy Act can be valued is under discussion.

25. The subject of the law relating to rent-free lands and revenue-free lands, the resumption of such lands to rent and revenue or to either, and the powers of Revenue Officers acting under the Tenancy Act with regard to such lands, is being carefully examined.

26. The subject of the quality of the ink used for making maps and writing settlement records came under discussion during the year. In my Circular No. 15S., dated 15th February 1895, addressed to Settlement Officers, the following instructions were given:—

“The reports received show that amins and attestation muharrirs ought on no account to use ink procured locally and by themselves. Such ink is sure to fade and leave the records unintelligible. In future, ink for vernacular records should be obtained from the Superintendent of Stationery; and you are requested when in want of ink to estimate carefully, and indent for a sufficient supply for all writing and correcting. The ink supply for your subordinates should be carefully organized, and every endeavour made to stop waste and dilution. When inspecting, special attention should be paid to the nature of the ink in use; and muharrirs recklessly wasting their supply should be punished.”

27. After comparison of the paper used for settlement khasras and khatians with the paper used in the North-West Provinces and in the Central Provinces, and after examining samples of paper sent to me by several of the paper mills near Calcutta, I have decided that no change in the paper at present used for the working khasras and khatians is required. If a change be required in the direction of cheapness, the

paper used in the Central Provinces, which, however, was the least good of the papers examined, should probably be adopted. A superior paper has been approved for the final copies of the khatian and khewats in Chittagong to be filed in the Collectorate.

The question whether a better tracing cloth than the kinds in use can be obtained for maps, such as will resist damp and handling, is still under examination.

Brown paper covers with cloth backs have been devised by the Superintendent of Government Printing for protection of khasras and working khatian volumes. A cheap and durable binding for Settlement records has to be devised.

CHAPTER II.

TEMPORARILY-SETTLED TRACTS AND GOVERNMENT ESTATES UNDER SETTLEMENT OF LAND REVENUE AND RENTS.

Major Settlements.

ORISSA.

28. As stated in paragraph 35 of the Report for the year ending 30th September 1894, Balasore was constituted a separate settlement charge, with effect from the 1st November 1894.

CUTTACK AND PURI.

29. The area for which a record of rights is being framed in Cuttack is 2,273 square miles and in Puri is 1,089 square miles. The area named for Cuttack includes 174 square miles of permanently-settled estates. The area named for Puri includes 104 square miles of revenue-free lands belonging to the Puri Temple. The area under resettlement of land revenue comprises 2,099 square miles in Cuttack and 985 square miles in Puri, but these areas include revenue-free lands aggregating considerable areas which are scattered in thousands of small parcels throughout nearly all the villages of the province.

30. Mr. W. Maude, c.s., was in charge of the settlement operations in the Cuttack and Puri districts throughout the year. From the 1st March 1895 he has also held charge of the Cuttack district as Collector and Magistrate. During the field season Mr. Maude had from 10 to 12 Assistants, who were all employed on attestation of records and entry of existing rents and status and in disposing summarily of disputes, except Mr. James Taylor, who was employed on settlement of rents. One of these 12 officers—Mr. Ambica Charan Sen—worked for a month only in the Puri district and then reverted to general duty as Officiating Collector of Puri. Mr. H. A. Boyd, c.s., was attacked with typhoid fever in camp, and died on the 11th April 1895. Four officers reverted to general duty at the end of the field season in May 1895, and one—Babu Akhoy Kumar Sen—went on three months' privilege leave from the 4th June to the 4th September 1895. During the recess months, from May to September, five officers, viz. Babu Jamini Mohan Das, Babu Chandra Nath Ghose, Babu Haris Chandra Ray, Babu Jogendra Narayan Mitra, and Mr. Taylor, were employed in tabulating assets and in writing rate reports for their circles.

Babu Chandra Nath Ghose spent 235 days in camp, Babu Akhoy Kumar Sen 197 days, Babu Ajay Chandra Das 166 days, Babu Jamini Mohan Das 234 days, Babu Sashi Bhusan Dutt 126 days (between 21st December to 10th May), Babu Haris Chandra Ray 193 days, Babu Amrit Lal Gupta 172 days (between 31st October and 13th May), Babu Jogendra Narayan Mitra, Personal Assistant

to the Settlement Officer, 118 days, Mr. H. A. Boyd 125 days, Babu Jotindra Mohan Sinha 201 days, Mr. Ambica Charan Sen 30 days, and Mr. James Taylor 159 days.

31. *Survey and record-writing.*—Detailed survey and record-writing for 4·97 square miles comprised in 43 small villages and portions of villages were completed during the year under report. This completed the whole of this work. Boundary (topographical) survey of 666 villages containing of 646 square miles in Cuttack and 114 villages containing 123 square miles in Puri in the permanently-settled villages was completed on the 2-inch to 1-mile scale.

Village boundary disputes.—Twenty-one village boundary disputes were decided under the Survey Act; 9 were pending at the end of the year.

Attestation.—In Cuttack the 10 officers employed on attestation work attested records and recorded existing rents and status in 1,356 villages with an area of 681·38 square miles, containing 276,138 tenants and 1,184,545 plots. These officers were engaged in this work in the aggregate for 61 months. The average outturn for each officer *per mensem* was therefore 19,418 plots, which was a little short of the programme of 21,000 plots, but was not an unsatisfactory outturn. Adding the attestation work of the year under report to the work done in previous years, the total work of this nature done in Cuttack since the beginning is as follows:—Villages 3,876, area 1,772·68 square miles, and plots 3,159,769. Records remain to be attested for 1,047 villages with an area of 500·70 square miles, and containing 881,467 plots.

In Puri Mr. Ambica Charan Sen attested records and recorded existing rents and status in 23 villages with an area of 13·05 square miles, and containing 3,458 tenants and 11,986 plots. Records remain to be attested in the villages belonging to the Puri Temple for 118 villages with an area of 90·95 square miles, and containing 82,826 plots.

Tabulation of assets.—The five officers named in paragraph 30 above who were employed during the recess months from May to September tabulated statistics of areas, tenancies, and rents for the villages in their circles for which records had been attested, and submitted rate reports for areas aggregating about 500 square miles contained in 1,021 villages in the Cuttack district. In those reports which are now under my consideration methods and principles for settlement of rents are discussed.

Settlement of rents.—Mr. James Taylor settled rents during the year under report in 110 villages for 8,630 tenants, whose existing rents he raised from Rs. 28,834 to Rs. 33,829. Including the work of the previous year Mr. Taylor has altogether settled rents in 142 villages for 13,950 tenants whose rents he has raised from Rs. 36,219 to Rs. 44,885.

Publication.—Records for 4 villages were published in draft during the year. No records have yet been finally published.

Other case-work.—Six cases were tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act, and 75 objections were disposed of under section 105.

32. Statistics of status, areas held by the various classes of tenants, and aggregate and average rents paid by the various classes have been tabulated for 298,965 tenants in 1,356 villages in Cuttack. Excluding under-raiyats, settled and occupancy raiyats hold 64·3 per cent. of the tenancies, and non-occupancy raiyats about 2 per cent. Proprietors, revenue-free-holders, tenure-holders of various kinds, chandnadars (non-agricultural tenants) and rent-free-holders hold the remaining tenancies. Only 5,267 acres in 1,356 villages have been recorded as true nijjot, *i.e.*, as proprietors' or tenure-holders' private lands. The average rent rate to the acre for holdings of settled and occupancy raiyats is about Rs. 2-8.

33. The expenditure incurred by the Settlement Officer during the year under report was Rs. 1,10,185, making a total expenditure on settlement (excluding survey) from the beginning in the Puri and Cuttack districts, inclusive also of expenditure in Balasore till Balasore became a separate charge in November 1894, of Rs. 7,18,505. The expenditure of the Survey Department during the year has not been reported to me.

BALASORE.

Area under survey and settlement in Balasore.

34. The temporarily-settled area under re-settlement is 1,733·11 square miles.

35. The settlement of the Balasore district has been in charge of Mr. S. L. Maddox, c.s., since the 1st November 1894. Mr. Maddox had a staff of nine to ten Assistants during the field season of 1894-95, who were almost wholly engaged on the work of attestation of records and entry of existing rents and status. Mr. Maddox spent 134 days in camp during the year, Mr. Thomson 164 days, Babu Sri Gopal Bhattacharjya 175 days, Babu Abhoy Pershad Das 167 days, Babu Chandi Churn Chatterjee 103 days, Babu Jagannath Dutt, 97 days, Babu Prasanna Kumar Banerji 169 days, Babu Romesh Chunder Das 159 days, Babu Jogeswar Biswas 134 days, Babu Chaku Lal Sircar, who died from the effects of a fall from his horse, 16 days, Babu Girish Chunder Dutt 157 days, and Babu Hara Krishna Mahant 170 days. Mr. Maddox went on three months' privilege leave from the 17th July 1895. Only two Assistant Settlement Officers were retained during the recess months.

Staff.

36. *Survey and khamapuri.*—The survey and record-writing, except for two villages with an area of half a square mile were completed in the temporarily-settled area by May 1894. For the two remaining villages records were written during the year under review. A 2-inch boundary (topographical) survey of villages was undertaken in the permanently-settled parganas and completed between January and June 1895 in 190 square miles comprising 447 villages.

Progress.

Village boundary disputes.—During the year 407 boundary disputes were decided under the Survey Act. Eight appeals were preferred, of which 6 were heard and 2 are pending. Decisions of Assistant Settlement Officers are confirmed in five cases and modified in one.

Attestation.—Attestation and record of existing rents and status began in eight circles in November 1894. In the middle of January 1895, a new officer, Babu Chandi Charan Chatterjee, opened another circle. In the middle of February 1895 Babu Jagannath Dutt opened a tenth circle. Ten attestation officers were at work through the latter half of February, the whole of March, and the first-half of April 1895. Eight officers remained in camp till the end of April 1895. During the recess Babu Prasanna Kumar Banerji attested records for Balasore town and adjacent villages. Altogether during the year records were attested for 1,962 villages containing an area of 1,022 square miles, 296,818 tenants, and 1,204,215 plots. During the field season the average outturn of attestation work for each officer per mensem was about 21,000 plots. At the end of the year records remained to be attested in Balasore for 686 villages with an area of 236 square miles and containing 232,846 plots.

Tabulation of assets.—During the recess months, May to September, Babu Prasanna Kumar Banerji was engaged partly in attestation work and partly in tabulating statistics of tenancies, areas, and rents and assets for the villages of North Balasore Circle for which records have been attested. Babu Jagannath Dutt supervised the tabulation work in the two Bhadrak Circles. In the North Balasore Circle statistics of existing tenancies, areas and rents were tabulated for 438 villages comprising 154 estates and contained in 11 parganas; and for nine parganas total area, cultivated area and rents were compared with the areas and rents of the last settlement. Like figures were tabulated for 222 and 153 villages in the East and West Bhadrak Circles.

Settlement of fair rents.—Mr. Maddox spent nearly the whole of February in making experimental settlement of rents in 14 villages containing 1,172 tenants. In the latter half of April he opened an assessment circle in the south-east of the district. In this circle, Mr. Maddox, Mr. Thomson and Babu Prasanna Kumar Banerji proposed rents in nine villages. The procedure in both experimental assessment circles was the same. Soil maps were prepared showing blocks of land of similar description and with similar advantages. I have received complete figures for 11 only out of the 20 villages in which rents were proposed. These show the following results:—Total area 2,265 acres, area assessed at former settlement 1,388 acres, area now assessed 1,598 acres, assets of former settlement Rs. 1,250, present assets Rs. 1,527, proposed assets

Rs. 2,304. The proposed assets are 51 per cent. in excess of rents now paid and 84 per cent. in excess of the assets of the last settlement.

Other case-work.—One hundred and six cases under section 106 were instituted. The cases under section 106 are generally of trifling importance; viz., disputes between raiyats or small claims by zamindars or lakhirajdars to with regard to right and title, &c.

37. Consolidated returns of tenancies and rents have not been furnished for Balasore. The existing average rent rate for settled and occupancy tenants in North Balasore Circle is Re. 1-6-8 an acre, varying from Re. 1-2-3, the average rate for pargana Haweli basta, to Rs. 2-3-9, the average rate for pargana Darowra chaur.

38. The expenditure incurred by the Settlement Officer during the year under report was Rs. 83,207. The expenditure incurred in this district during previous years has not been separated from the expenditure in Puri and Cuttack.

39. Settlement work in Orissa has seriously suffered by the reversion of the Settlement Officers to general duty during the recess months, Mr. Maude in Cuttack in the year under review, and Mr. Maddox in Balasore in the previous year. The whole time of the Settlement Officers must be given during the next two years to settlement work, and they must have large staffs if the work of the settlement of the land revenue is to make substantial progress before the existing settlement of Orissa runs out in September 1897.

Important orders were passed by Government during the year with regard to treatment of bazyaftidars, with regard to treatment of excess lands held by lakhiraj bahaldars, with regard to house and homestead lands and with regard to waste lands. Important correspondence also passed with regard to collection of evidence of rise of prices, and the making of this evidence available in proceedings for settlement of rents. Discussions of methods and principles for settlement of rents in Orissa have hitherto been conducted on an insufficient basis. The figures tabulated during the recess months of 1895 with regard to tenancies and rents, which will be examined as early as possible, furnish a much wider basis for discussion.

CHITTAGONG.

40. The area of the whole district of Chittagong is 2,491·90 square miles. Of this area, 1,905·59 square miles have been surveyed in detail, including 57·93 square miles of thatching-grass lands surveyed during the year under Report. The remaining area consists of jungle, waste land lots, and the permanently-settled portion of Moishkhal as explained in paragraph 36 of my Report for the year 1893-94. Settlement work was going on in all parts of the district during the year.

41. Mr. C. G. H. Allen, c.s., was in charge of the settlement till the 6th April 1895, when he went on seven months' furlough, and was succeeded by Mr. C. J. Stevenson-Moore, c.s., who had joined the staff as an Assistant Settlement Officer in December 1894. A staff of 5 Assistant Settlement Officers and 13 kanungos was employed on the settlement for the greater part of the year under review.

Mr. Allen was on tour for 173 days between November 1894 and the 6th April 1895. Mr. Stevenson-Moore was in camp for 101 days more between April and September, and had previously been in camp for 86 days as Assistant Settlement Officer in the Cox's Bazar subdivision. Babu Jogendra Kumar Ghose, who was in charge of the Cox's Bazar Circle, went on medical leave at the end of December. Babu Durga Charan Ghose, who was in charge of Belgaon, West Patiya, East Patiya and Anwara Circles, and of Raojan for the first part of the year, was on tour for 328 days. Babu Sarat Chandra Das, who was working in North and South Satkania and Rangonia, was in camp for 299 days. Babu Haripada Ghosh was working in Mirkasarai and Kumra Circles, and was on tour for 336 days. Babu Sasi Mohan Talukdar was working in Fatikchhari and Hathazari, and was on tour for 319 days.

The officers of the Chittagong settlement staff and their establishments have carried on their duties in the villages and at centres throughout the hot

weather and rains, in spite of much discomfort, and have deserved the thanks of Government for their devotion to their work.

42. *Survey of thatching-grass lands and demarcation of the Hill Tract boundary.*—The area of thatching-grass lands surveyed in detail, and for which records were written during the year, was 57·93 square miles. Sixty miles of boundary between the Chittagong district and the Hill Tracts were surveyed; 49 miles remain to be surveyed.

Boundary disputes.—Two hundred and thirty-three village boundary disputes were disposed of during the year.

Attestation.—Records for three villages in Moiskhal Island, with an area of 19·25 square miles, and containing 1,000 tenants and 4,338 plots, were attested during the year.

Mahal milan, or adjustment of lands of estates and villages.—During the year this work was completed in 240 villages, making 760 villages dealt with from the beginning, and 276 villages not completed, but for the most part being dealt with.

Settlement of rents and revenue.—The district contains 1,036 villages and 212,655 noabad tenants of all degrees. For assessment purposes it has been divided into 21 circles. Settlement of rents has been taken up in 13 circles containing 709 villages and 152,036 tenants. Previously to the year under report, rents had been settled in 89 villages for 24,406 tenants, and during the year under report rents were settled for 80,997 tenants in 356 villages. Rents remained at the end of the year to be settled for 107,252 tenants in 591 villages.

The work under this head done during the year has fallen short of the forecast, which was based on the assumption that officers would settle rents at the rate of 2,000 tenants a month. No officer except Mr. Stevenson-Moore, however, maintained this average for the year. The methods and principles on which rents have been settled in Chittagong have been explained in special reports submitted during the year with my letters Nos. 1156S., dated 13th April 1895, submitting the Ramu revision report, No. 2064S., dated 13th July 1895, submitting a report on general principles and methods followed in Chittagong, and No. 2940S., dated 14th August 1895, submitting the Jaldi assessment report. Briefly it may be said that rents of raiyats are not being raised in Chittagong, except on the ground that they have added to their holdings. Rents payable by middlemen are being largely increased, especially in the case of the taluks or tenures which were settled in 1848. The results of settlement have been that rents in the aggregate payable by tenants of all degrees have been raised from Rs. 4,71,326 to Rs. 6,18,418; and revenue payable directly to Government has been raised from Rs. 2,45,617 to Rs. 3,56,415, or by 45 per cent. The increase of revenue has varied in the different circles from 12 per cent. in Kutubdia, where rents were settled only ten years ago (and where presumably rates have not been increased and only excess lands have been assessed), to 94 per cent. in Satkania and 196 per cent. in Sangu. In Satkania rents were previously much too low, the Settlement Officer says. He has a discretion to reduce enhancements which may appear to him to have been excessive or too suddenly made. In Sangu waste lands have been broken up.

Only two appeals against fair rent decisions were preferred to the Special Judge during the year, and two such appeals were pending from the previous year. The Judge decided one of the appeals during the year, and upheld the Settlement Officer's decision.

Collections.—The new assessment came into force in 48 villages in old thana Ramu from April 1894, and 98·7 per cent. of the new revenue from taluks was realized, as against 89·2 per cent. realised in the previous year. The percentage of collections from khas jotes was 83·2 per cent., and in 1893-94, 91·3 per cent. During the current financial year the new assessment is being introduced into 99 villages throughout the district.

Publication.—Records had been published in draft for permanently-settled estates in 312 villages and for noabad lands in 77 villages before the beginning of the year under report, and were published in draft for permanently-settled estates in 273 villages and for noabad lands in 280 villages during the year under report. Records had been finally published for permanently-settled

estates in 75 villages and for noabad lands in 48 villages before the year under report, and were finally published for permanently-settled estates in 304 villages and for noabad lands in 191 villages during the year.

Objections under section 105 and suits under section 106.—4,456 objections under section 105 were preferred during the year, and 4,559 were disposed of; 535 were pending at the end of the year. 32 suits under section 106 were instituted during year, and 34 were disposed of; 31 were pending at the end of the year.

43. Statistics of status, areas held by the various classes of tenants, and aggregate and average rents paid by the various classes, have been tabulated by the Settlement Officer for 614,827 tenancies, of which nearly two-thirds are contained in the permanently-settled estates. Settled and occupancy raiyats hold 49 per cent. of the tenancies, tenure-holders 23 per cent., raiyats at fixed rates and rents 11 per cent., proprietors 6 per cent., non-occupancy raiyats 4 per cent. The average rent rates per cultivated acre now returned by the Settlement Officer are markedly less than were returned in the previous year. The Settlement Officer explains that the differences are mainly due to inclusion of figures for the Chakaria and Teknaf circles, where tenants mostly hold from Government direct and pay lower rates than elsewhere; but also probably to some errors in previous tabulation. In Chakaria tenure-holders and raiyats alike pay an average rate of Rs. 3-5 an acre. The average rate of rent for the whole district paid by settled raiyats is shown in the last statement attached to the Settlement Officer's report to be Rs. 4-9-6.

44. The expenditure of the Settlement Officer during the year was Rs. 1,40,406-11-11 of which Rs. 4,219 is debited to survey and Rs. 1,36,187 to settlement. The total cost incurred from the beginning of the operations down to 30th September is returned as Rs. 5,25,985 spent on survey and Rs. 6,58,935 on settlement.

PALAMAU GOVERNMENT ESTATE.

45. The area which has been surveyed in detail in the 397 khalsa villages or Government villages in Palamau estate is 180,661-70 acres or 282-28 square miles. In addition 10-87 square miles of jagir or revenue-free lands have been surveyed in detail. The number of plots measured in the khalsa villages is 160,903; the average area of a plot is therefore 1-12 acres. The estate has 13,133 tenants.

46. Mr. L. F. Berkeley, Assistant Superintendent of Survey, was in charge of the survey work throughout the year, Mr. D. Sunder, the Settlement Officer, took charge from the 17th November 1894. Mr. W. R. Bright, the Deputy Commissionere had previously given close supervision to the operations. Babu Rameswar Pershad, Assistant Settlement Officer, was employed in the operations throughout the year under report. Mr. Sunder was in camp for 113 days and Babu Rameswar Pershad for 242 days.

47. *Survey and initial record-writing.*—Survey and initial record-writing in 216 villages chiefly in the northern tappas with an area of 131-67 square miles had been completed before the year under report, and for 181 villages chiefly in the southern tappas with an area of 161-48 square miles were completed during the year. Records for 331 villages were delivered by the survey officer during the year, making up with records for 66 villages previously delivered the whole number of 397 village records. Mr. Sunder acknowledges the hard work done by Mr. Berkeley, but says that as he was unable both to supervise in the field and in office and as delivery of records was hurried on in order that attestation might be expedited, the traces and records were not as correct as they might have been made.

Boundary disputes.—The Settlement Officer disposed of 162 boundary disputes during the year. One was pending at the end of the year.

Attestation.—Attestation of records for 33 villages with an area of 21-35 square miles and embracing 1,558 tenants and 18,925 plots had been made by Babu Rameswar Pershad in the previous year. Some re-attestation of

these records was made by the Settlement Officer during the year, and the following new work was done:—

		Villages.	Square miles.	Tenants.	Plots.
By Mr. Sunder	...	18	23.40	715	9,390
By Babu Rameswar Pershad	...	346	237.53	10,860	132,588
Total	...	364	260.93	11,575	141,978

Mr. Sunder also checked the attestation in 201 of the 346 villages for which the Assistant Settlement Officer attested records during the year. This completed attestation work.

Tirijes and jamabandis.—Tirijes and jamabandis in which new rents calculated at proposed rates were entered were written for all the villages during the recess months.

Rate report.—The Settlement Officer after inspection of the villages submitted his rate report for all the villages of the estate at the end of August. It was forwarded to me with the Commissioner's letter No. 818, dated 29th September 1895, and is under my consideration. Mr. Sunder's proposals would raise existing revenue of the estate from Rs. 40,842-8-1 to Rs. 79,899-3-2 or by 95 per cent. and the attested existing rental of Rs. 55,964-12 paid to the thikkadars by 42 per cent. The extension of cultivation since the last settlement of 1869 has been 131 per cent. Mr. Sunder expects to get his estimated increase of revenue chiefly from the lands held by the thikkadars and superior raiyats.

48. Statistics of status and rent have been tabulated for 13,133 tenancies.

Out of these 7,184 or 54.7 per cent. are held by settled and occupancy raiyats, 5,579 or 42.4 per cent. by non-occupancy raiyats, 255 by rent-free holders and 115 by tenure-holders. The large number of tenants recorded as non-occupancy raiyats has been noticed during the year, and the Settlement Officer has explained that many of the tenants constantly change their cultivation from village to village. No difficulty should be made in concession of occupancy rights to Government tenants when they shall abandon their nomadic habits. The average rate of rent per acre at present paid by settled raiyats is 14 annas 3 pies only. Non-occupancy raiyats who have inferior lands pay at the rate of 12 annas 5 pies. There is a striking difference in the rate of rent paid for rice land and for upland. For rice land Rs. 6 and over an acre appear to be a not uncommon rate. For upland a few annas only are paid.

49. The cost of the settlement operations during the year was

Rs. 15,840-14-10. I have not received figures showing the cost of survey.

DARJEELING TERAI.

50. The area to be resettled in the Darjeeling Terai consists (i) of 793 jotes held on 15-year leases and containing an area of 124,090 acres, or nearly 194 square miles, and (ii) of an area of about 28,000 acres, or nearly 44 square miles held on 33 30-year leases.

The survey of all the jotes and of 21.24 square miles of the 30-year lease grants was made by a detachment of the Survey of India under Mr. J. McHatton, Assistant Superintendent of Survey, in field season 1894-95, and initial records were written. The boundaries of all the 30-year lease grants were surveyed. Munshi Panchcouri Biswas was appointed to be Assistant Settlement Officer in the Darjeeling Terai from the 5th December 1894. He assisted in demarcation, supervised the record-writing, and passed summary orders in disputes. He reverted to general duty from the 16th July 1895. The settlement of rents will be made in field season 1895-96.

The expenditure incurred in settlement in the year under report was Rs. 2,632. The expenditure in survey has not been reported to me.

Minor Settlements.

PATASPUR ESTATES IN MIDNAPORE.

51. The resettlement of the 18 temporarily-settled estates contained in pargana Pataspur is being conducted under Government notification No. 3734 L.R., dated 25th October 1892. These estates contain lands in

Area under survey and settlement.

96 villages and have been surveyed in about 81,000 plots included in about 18,000 tenancies. Together with six other estates described by the Settlement Officer as "permanently-settled," the 18 temporarily-settled estates make up an area of 56·82 square miles, or 36,364 acres (containing 97,000 fields), as the whole area of pargana Pataspur. The lands of the six "permanently-settled estates" and the lands of the 18 temporarily-settled estates are interspersed. The lands of the 18 temporarily-settled estates have been measured during the present survey operations, the Settlement Officer reports, as containing 25,520 acres, of which 19,270 are cultivated and 6,250 are uncultivated; but the figures appear to me to be open to some doubt, and I have asked for further information.

52. The field survey of pargana Pataspur was finished in field season 1892-93 and the initial record-writing in field season 1893-94. The first Settlement Officer, Babu Satis Chandra Bose, Deputy Collector, was appointed in November 1892 to be Settlement Officer in Pataspur and in other estates. He held charge till March 1894, when his health broke down and he took leave. On the 1st June 1894 Babu Lalit Chandra Das Gupta took charge as Settlement Officer. He also fell ill and had to take leave from the middle of August 1894. The charge of the settlement was then held in succession by two Deputy Collectors of the regular staff at Midnapore, Babu Chhaku Lal Sircar and Babu Surendra Nath Majumdar, who made no progress with the work. The present Settlement Officer, Babu Promotho Nath Dutt, took charge of this settlement and of some other settlements in Midnapore district from the 22nd December 1894. From December 1894 till the 9th June 1895 he had the assistance of Babu Nani Lal Mukherjee, Sub-Deputy Collector. Attestation of records for nearly 25,000 fields was returned by the first Settlement Officer, Babu Satis Chandra Bose, as having been made in field season 1893-94, but this work was imperfectly done; and in January last I directed the present Settlement Officer to include in his programme of attestation all the villages which had been returned by his predecessor as attested. Attestation with record of existing rents and status was completed in June 1895. The Settlement Officer (who also had work in other estates in the Midnapore district) attested and re-attested records for 54 villages with an area of 23·77 square miles and containing 36,336 plots, and the Assistant Settlement Officer attested and re-attested records for 42 villages with an area of 30·93 square miles and containing 45,251 plots. The Settlement Officer and Assistant Settlement Officer also each disposed of seven boundary disputes. The Settlement Officer has submitted a rate report preliminary to settlement of rents in those estates, which has been forwarded to the Board with my letter No. 494T.S., dated 10th September 1895. Jamabandi for 20 villages were worked out experimentally in accordance with the Settlement Officer's proposals.

53. Out of the 13,505 tenancies for which figures have been tabulated, 8,720, or 64·5 per cent., are held by settled and occupancy raiyats; 1,924, or 14·2 per cent., are held by rent-free tenants; 1,892, or 14 per cent., are held by tenure-holders; and 861, or 6·3 per cent., by non-occupancy tenants. Proprietary lands make up 102 holdings with an aggregate area of 1,751 acres. It is not explained how much of this area is true *sir*. Settled and occupancy raiyats pay an average rate of Rs. 2-12-9 to the cultivated acre.

54. The total expenditure incurred during the year in the settlement of these estates was Rs. 8,809.* The expenditure incurred previous to the year under report was Rs. 12,187 for survey and a part of the record-writing and Rs. 8,967 for settlement.

THE JAIPUR GOVERNMENT ESTATES IN BOGRA.

55. The Jaipur Government estates which were notified for survey and settlement under Chapter X of the Tenancy Act in Government notification of 24th January 1893 are eight in number and are contained in 157 villages. One hundred and fifteen villages are entirely owned by Government, except some scattered lands in a few villages which belong to other proprietors. In 42 of the villages Government has a share with other landlords. The entire area surveyed consists of 35,547 acres, or 55·5 square miles, out of which 32,218 acres

* Rs. 58 spent on survey included in this amount.

are contained in the Government estates. The 35,547 acres have been surveyed in 54,663 plots, and there are 9,796 tenancies, out of which 8,362 are tenancies held from Government.

56. The traverse survey began in February 1893 under a professional survey party. By the end of July 1893, when the survey operations for the year were closed, traverse survey had been completed for an area of 60.41 square miles, and cadastral survey for an area of 13.15 square miles, comprising 22 villages. The survey operations were completed, and the whole of the record-writing for the 55.8 square miles comprised in the estates was finished during the year 1893-94 by the Survey Department. The first Settlement Officer, Babu Nityanunda Ghosh, joined his appointment on the 9th February 1894 and reverted to general duty from the 18th August 1894. No attestation work could be done during the year, as the Survey Department were unable to furnish completed records till after field season 1893-94 had ended. All the records were delivered before the end of October 1894. The present Settlement Officer, Babu Sarat Chandra Das, joined his appointment on the 27th November 1894. He was employed on attestation work until the 15th June 1895, when he reverted to general duty. He spent 76 days on tour in the villages and the rest of the year chiefly at Khanjanpur, the head-quarters of the estate.

Orders were passed last April, on the representations of the Settlement Officer as to the inaccuracy of the record-writing, that the khasra should be checked on the ground, and accordingly the khasras for 54 villages were completely checked between April and 15th July by 20 amins under the supervision of two Inspectors. The work of check was started by Mr. J. McHatton, Extra Assistant Superintendent of Survey. New parchas were given to all the tenants in the villages checked. The Settlement Officer has said much about the errors in the records written by the survey amins. After an inspection in August 1895 of the records for two of the villages for which the Settlement Officer reported the largest percentages of error, I was of opinion that the Settlement Officer had exaggerated his difficulties, and considered that if he had worked more intelligently he would have a much larger outturn of work to show for last season.

The Settlement Officer claims to have made "preliminary attestation" of records for 152 villages, but he is only able to show that records for 11 villages with 354 tenancies, 2,097 plots, and containing an area of 1,553 acres, have been finally attested. He also disposed of 30 boundary disputes, but had 50 pending at the end of the year.

57. The total expenditure incurred on the survey and settlement of these estates, so far as I have information, has been Rs. 13,585 for survey and Rs. 8,675 for settlement. The cost during the year under report was Rs. 6,606 for settlement.

BACKERGUNGE GOVERNMENT ESTATES AND TEMPORARILY-SETTLED ESTATES.

58. Six Government estates and temporarily-settled estates in Backergunge with an area of 40,989 acres or 64 square miles were under settlement under the Tenancy Act in the year 1894-95. The names and areas of these estates are given in the margin. Besides these estates the Settlement Officer, Babu Piyari Mohan Basu, mentions in his report char Karalmara and Ganeshpara, of which the settlement was completed before October 1894, but for which the final reports were under consideration during the year. In the case of Karalmara the Board have recently sanctioned reduction of the rents fixed by the Settlement Officer.

The completion report on char Ganeshpara was submitted to me in November 1893 and to the Board with my letter No. 3240, dated 13th December 1893.

In char Bairagya, which was mentioned in paragraph 64 of my Report for the year 1893-94, rents have been amicably settled, with the result that the former rental of Rs. 9,773 has been raised to Rs. 11,993.

Area under settlement.		
		Acres.
(1) Bairagia	...	4,638
(2) Surplus accretion to Char Lakhi <i>alias</i> Padma Manasha	...	1,431
(3) Tushkhali	...	23,037
(4) Heshamuddin	...	9,659
(5) Char Nalgora	...	689
(6) Char Ramesh	...	1,535
Total	...	40,989

In char Lakhi, otherwise known as the "Surplus accretion to Padma Manasha," also mentioned in paragraph 65 of my Report for 1893-94, the records have been re-attested, rents have been settled, and draft publication has been made during the year. The result of the settlement has been to raise existing rents from Rs. 2,813 to Rs. 7,761. The Settlement Officer writes that the superior tenure-holders in this estate and some of the raiyats have hitherto paid no rent at all. Raiyati rents have been raised from Rs. 2,520 to Rs. 4,087. Eleven tenure-holders who have hitherto paid nothing, have been assessed to pay Rs. 2,954. The Settlement Officer's final report on settlement of this char is awaited.

The resettlement of Tushkhali estate was ordered in Government notification dated 10th December 1894. The estate is comprised in 23 villages and has been measured as containing an area of 23,037 acres, with 40,650 plots and 4,801 tenants of all degrees. Survey and khasra-writing were complete in all the 23 villages during the year under report, and khatians were written for 21 villages.

The resettlement of char Heshamuddin was ordered in Government notification of 6th October 1894. The estate comprises five villages, and has been measured as containing 9,659 acres, with 13,910 plots and 1,969 tenants of all degrees. Survey and khasra-writing and khatian-writing were completed in this estate in the year under report.

The resettlement of char Nalgora was ordered in Government notification dated 27th July 1894. This estate has a total area of 669 acres, and contains 164 raiyats. Fair rents were settled in this estate, and records were finally published in August 1895. The result of settlement of this estate has been that the Government revenue has been raised from Rs. 1,596 to Rs. 2,313.

The resettlement of char Ramesh was ordered in Government notification dated 29th October 1894. This estate has been measured as containing an area of 1,535 acres. The settlement khatians were finally published on 10th August 1895. The result of settlement of this estate has been that the Government revenue has been raised from Rs. 72 to Rs. 3,208. In the previous settlement the whole estate was farmed at a lump rent of Rs. 72. The Settlement Officer has not reported what the existing rents of the raiyats were, as ascertained by him.

The Settlement Officer also gave some of his time to settlement work, which was proceeding under the Regulations in 66 small estates with an aggregate area of 50,876 acres. The expenditure incurred on settlement of the Government estates and temporarily-settled estates during the year is reported to have been Rs. 12,971-0-3.

GOVERNMENT ESTATES IN GAYA.

59. Under notification No. 650T.R., dated 6th October 1894, 23 Government estates in Gaya contained in 109 villages and with an area of 88 square miles have been brought under survey and record-of-rights under Chapter X of the Tenancy Act. The survey and record-writing were carried out during the year under report by the detachment of the Survey of India Department, which has been employed in the survey of the Tikari estate, and the record-writing was supervised, as stated in paragraph 95 of this report by the Revenue Officers employed in the Tikari estate.

No work other than the survey and initial record-writing was done in these estates during the year. The charge on account of supervision of the record-writing by the Revenue Officers has not yet been separated from the accounts for the settlement of Tikari.

The Settlement Officer's report for the operations in Tikari includes the work done in the Government estates.

GOVERNMENT ESTATES IN SHAHABAD.

60. The settlement under Chapter X of the Tenancy Act of 15 Government estates in parganas Sasaram and Piro in Shahabad district was ordered in Government notification No. 270L.R., dated 14th January 1895. These estates are comprised in 20 villages with an aggregate area of 18.75 square miles and contain 988 tenants. Maulavi Saiyyed Sher Ali, Deputy Collector, is in charge of the settlement of these estates, as well as of other estates which are being dealt with under Regulation VII of 1822 in this district.

The estates had been surveyed before it was decided to bring the operations under Chapter X of the Tenancy Act. Initial record-writing for 14 villages had been completed before the year under report, and for 6 villages with an area of 9·4 square miles was completed during the year. Records for 8 villages with an area of 3·4 square miles and containing 352 tenants and 3,287 plots, had been attested before the year under report, and for 12 villages with an area of 7·4 square miles and containing 636 tenants and 4,938 plots were attested during the year. The remaining area of these estates is uncultivated. Eight hundred and eighty-two of the tenants have been recorded as settled raiyats. In the case of 13 of the 15 estates, the Settlement Officer has submitted rate reports preliminary to settlement of rents. These reports are under the consideration of the Collector. The expenditure incurred on the operations on these estates during the year was Rs. 1,350-9-4. Under the orders of Government these estates were visited in March 1895 by Mr. M. F. Gauntlett, c.s., Assistant Settlement Officer in Saran, and the maps and records made by Maulavi Saiyyed Sher Ali were tested. Mr. Gauntlett found that the work done, though rough in system, might be accepted, except in one village, where he recommended remeasurement. Mr. Gauntlett's recommendations were accepted by Government. Mr. Gauntlett also wrote an interesting report on the question of rise of rents in connection with canal irrigation with reference to figures tabulated for these estates.

CHAPTER III.

SURVEY AND RECORD OF RIGHTS IN PRIVATE ESTATES.

Major Operations.

NORTH BIHAR.

61. The following table shows progress under main heads in the four years 1891—95:—

	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.	Remaining on 1st October 1895.	Programme for 1895-96.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<i>Muzaffarpur (area 3,070 sq. miles.) (a).</i>		Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	
1. Traverse survey ...	1,247	997	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	(a) The rest of Muzaffarpur was traverse surveyed by Colonel Barron in 1885-86. (b) Includes 410 square miles of Colonel Barron's area revised. There is an error in the figures of 17 square miles which has not yet been explained. (c) A considerable area of jungle at the north of the district of Champaran, about 298 square miles, will probably be excluded from the operations. (d) Includes about 130 square miles of 16-anna villages, the property of the Darbhanga Raj, surveyed by Mr. Finucane in 1878-79. (e) Exclusive of about 570 square miles surveyed by Mr. Finucane in 1878-79.
2. Field survey ...	...	529	979	1,082	482	482	
3. Khanapuri or initial record-writing.	...	466	788	(b) 1,355	482	482	
4. Attestation ...	...	66	376	746	1,882	1,364	
5. Draft publication	...	59	316	693	2,002	1,400	
6. Final publication	...	...	...	250	2,820	900	
<i>Champaran (area 3,575 sq. miles.) (c)</i>							
1. Traverse survey ...	363	1,103	1,320	126	365	365	(c) A considerable area of jungle at the north of the district of Champaran, about 298 square miles, will probably be excluded from the operations. (d) Includes about 130 square miles of 16-anna villages, the property of the Darbhanga Raj, surveyed by Mr. Finucane in 1878-79. (e) Exclusive of about 570 square miles surveyed by Mr. Finucane in 1878-79.
2. Field survey ...	...	416	517	1,162	1,182	1,182	
3. Khanapuri or initial record-writing.	...	320	599	1,176	1,182	1,182	
4. Attestation ...	...	46	380	491	2,360	1,168	
5. Draft publication	...	46	380	400	2,451	1,200	
6. Final publication	...	Nil	7	400	2,870	500	
<i>Saran (area 2,622 sq. miles).</i>							
1. Traverse survey ...	Nil	894	932	516	280	52	(e) Exclusive of about 570 square miles surveyed by Mr. Finucane in 1878-79.
2. Field survey ...	...	} Not begun	549	...	2,073	650	
3. Khanapuri or initial record-writing.	...		527	...	2,095	672	
4. Attestation ...	...		19	487	2,116	...	
5. Draft publication	...	...	19	150	2,453	337	
6. Final publication	...	...	Nil	14	2,608	492	
<i>Darbhanga (area 2,233 sq. miles).</i>							
1. Traverse survey ...	Nil	Nil	(d) 518	Nil	(e) 2,145	1,083	

The progress made in each of the three districts—Muzaffarpur, Champaran and Saran—during the year under review will now be noticed.

MUZAFFARPUR.

62. Mr. P. C. Lyon, c.s., was in charge of the settlement operations in Muzaffarpur and Gaya throughout the year, except for 15 days of privilege leave in October 1894 and three weeks of privilege leave in September 1895. From the 23rd February 1895 he also had charge in the Champaran and Saran districts. From November to the beginning of May Mr. Lyon had a staff of from 12 to 14 Assistants, and in the recess months from May to the end of September a staff of three to four Assistants in the Muzaffarpur district. Five officers, viz. Babu Siva Sankar Singh, Maulavi Shah Muhammad Azam, Maulavi Muhammad Yusuf Ali, Maulavi Saiyyed Ali Mazahar and Mr. Ram Kamal Gupta were entirely employed on attestation; 3 officers, viz. Babu Charu Chandra Kumar, Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta and Babu Raj Krishna Bahadur were employed on attestation work during the field season and on casework during the recess; Mr. Dwija Das Datta was employed on casework till he went on leave in July 1895; of the other officers who were employed for portions of the year. Mr. J. L. Phillimore and Mr. R. B. Hughes were chiefly employed on casework and office work, and Mr. C. A. Bell, Mr. C. C. Warburton, Mr. S. S. Day, Babu Chinta Haran Chatterji and Babu Khetra Bhusan Parshad were chiefly engaged in supervising the initial record-writing and in summarily disposing of disputes. Mr. Lyon was in camp in all the districts under his charge for 177 days. The days spent in camp by the Assistant Settlement Officers are shown in statement A appended to the Settlement Officer's report.

63. *Field survey and record-writing.*—Field survey of an area of 1,082 square miles and initial record-writing for 1,355 square miles as returned by the Survey Department or 1,364.45 square miles as returned by the Settlement Officer were completed during the year. These areas include 410 square miles, for which maps and records made in 1885-86 were revised. This work was carried out by Messrs. H. T. Hanby and C. S. Kraal, Assistant Superintendents of Survey, under the general control of Captain Crichton, Deputy Superintendent of Survey. The record-writing was supervised by the Settlement Officer and by the Assistant Settlement Officers, but Mr. Lyon says less continuously than he would have wished. Out of 1,642 villages in which record-writing was going on during the year, 779 were visited by the Revenue Officers, of whom two were entirely and four partly employed on this work. The Settlement Officer also gave all the attention that he could give to this branch of work. The khasra entries were tested by the Revenue Officers for 10,139 out of 20½ lakhs of plots entered in the khasras during the season, or for less than ½ per cent., and summary orders were passed with regard to 12,899 disputes.

Village boundary disputes.—Twelve hundred and sixty-seven disputes as to village boundaries were instituted during the year or were brought on to the files from the preceding year, and 1,243 were disposed of by summary orders passed under the Bengal Survey Act. Sixty-seven appeals made to the Collector against the orders of the Settlement Officer and Assistant Settlement Officers in these cases were decided during the year, with the result that the orders were upheld in 62 cases, modified in 3 cases (1 by compromise) and reversed in 2 cases. I agree with the Settlement Officer in thinking that these results are very satisfactory, and also agree generally in the remarks which Mr. Lyon makes on this class of cases in paragraphs 7 to 9 of his report.

Attestation.—From the 19th October 1894 eight Attestation Officers began work in this district, and at the end of November a ninth officer began attestation work. One officer finished his programme of work by the 18th March, three more had finished before the end of March, two finished work in April, two in the first week in May, and one officer had not finished his work till the 22nd May. The whole outturn of attestation work for the season was as follows:—Villages 1,361, square miles 746.40, tenants 279,004, and plots 1,130,745. This gives an average of 22,000 plots per mensem for each officer employed—an outturn which is as much as can be expected as an average for the season in a

district where landlords are very numerous, tenancies small, and disputes very frequent. At the close of the season 13 villages with an area of 11 square miles remained out of the programme for the season, which will be dealt with in season 1895-96.

Settlement of fair rents.—The Settlement Officer has furnished separate figures relating to settlement of rents (1) on applications made by private landlords or by tenants, (2) in the Government estates in the Hajipur dearas. Of the applications made during the year, 9 were preferred by tenants, 111 by European indigo-planters, and 296 by native zamindars. Of the applications made by indigo-planters, 69 were subsequently withdrawn, the Settlement Officer writes “as having been filed by mistake for very small claims.” Under the first head 435 applications affecting 2,646 tenants were disposed of during the year for the most part by Mr. Dwija Das Datta, Babu Charu Chandra Kumar, and Babu Bhupendranath Gupta, with the result that the existing rents of these tenants were raised from Rs. 27,887 to Rs. 31,545, or by 13·1 per cent. Of this increase, Rs. 3,535 were given on the ground of an increase in area in the tenancies and Rs. 123 only on the ground of prevailing rate. Inclusive of fair rents settled in earlier years for 2,986 tenants, the total increase of rent given by the Revenue Officers in Muzaffarpur district has been Rs. 4,292 on former rents aggregating Rs. 51,492. The percentage of increase for all the rents dealt with under section 104 of the Act has been therefore 8·33. Existing rents have been recorded for 464,872 tenants who pay rents aggregating nearly 10 lakhs of rupees. The number of tenants for whom fair rents have been settled therefore in this district is only a little more than 1 per cent. of the number for whom existing rents have been recorded, and the increase of rent on the total attested rental is less than $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. or 8 annas in Rs. 100.

In the Government villages in the deara Mr. Phillimore disposed of 29 cases affecting 595 tenants, whose nominal rents of Rs. 1,487 he raised to Rs. 2,847. Mr. Lyon writes that this apparently heavy enhancement was purely fictitious, as the farmers of the estates and the raiyats had colluded and caused rents far below the real rents to be entered as the “existing rents;” and that the rents fixed by Mr. Phillimore are probably below the rents actually paid previously by the tenants in these villages.

Fourteen appeals to the Special Judge have been preferred, and 13 have been decided (12 during the year under report) in the matter of fair rents settled. In 11 cases the decisions of the Revenue officers have been upheld and in 2 cases modified.

Publication.—Records for 1,265 villages with an area of 693 square miles were published in draft during the year under report. Since the beginning draft records for 2,272 villages with an area of 1,068 square miles have been published. Records for 768 villages with an area of 250 square miles were finally published during the year. There had been no final publication previous to the year under report.

Case-work under sections 105 and 106.—Six thousand five hundred and sixty-eight objections under section 105 of the Tenancy Act were disposed of during the year and 1,008 such objections were pending at the end of the year. Eight hundred and seventy suits were disposed of under section 106 of the Act chiefly by Mr. Dwija Das Datta and Babu Ray Krishna Bahadur. In 82 out of 118 appeals in this class of cases decided by the Special Judge during the year the decisions of the Revenue Officers were upheld, in 32 reversed and in 4 modified (2 by compromise). I agree in the views expressed by Mr. Lyon in paragraph 18 of his report on the subject of these cases.

64. Statistics of status, area and rent have been tabulated for 164,406 tenancies, exclusive of 11,766 tenancies held by under-raiyats, in 1,006 villages comprising an area of about 400 square miles. Of these tenancies 127,189, or 77·4 per cent., are held by settled and occupancy raiyats; 11,874, or 7·22 per cent., are held by raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents; 5,999, or 3·6 per cent., are held by non-occupancy raiyats; 5,821, or 3·5 per cent., are held by rent-freeholders; 4,515, or 2·8 per cent., have been recorded as true *sir*; 4,969, or 3 per cent., are held by proprietors but are not true *sir*; 1,039, or ·6 per cent. only, are in the cultivating possession of tenure-holders and 3,000 are deara tenancies.

Statistics of status, area and rents.

The average rate of rents in these 1,006 villages is shown to be Rs. 3-10-7 to the acre for settled raiyats, Rs. 4-12-3 for occupancy raiyats not settled (these are only 3,277 in number), Rs. 3-10-11 for raiyats at fixed rates, and Rs. 4-6-7 for non-occupancy raiyats; but the Settlement Officer says that these rent rates take no account of produce rents, and that probably 10 per cent. must be added to the rents (and therefore to the rates) on this account. It is to be regretted that the rates have been obscured by this defect in the tabulation. Making the addition of 10 per cent. suggested by the Settlement Officer, it would seem from the figures tabulated for the 1,006 villages that Rs. 4 to the acre rather than Rs. 3-10-7 is the average rate of rent paid by settled raiyats in Muzaffarpur; but figures tabulated in greater detail for 378 villages give an average rent rate of Rs. 5-12-10 to the cultivated acre and Rs. 5-3-9 for the total area of the holdings of settled raiyats. The rent rates will be further examined when tabulation has made greater progress.

65. The expenditure incurred by the Settlement Officer during the year amounted to Rs. 1,28,342-4-8. The total expenditure incurred in this district, exclusive of survey expenditure, down to the end of the year under report has been Rs. 1,86,420.

66. Proposals on the subject of apportionment and recovery of costs were submitted to Government during the year, and it was decided that recovery should be made at the rate of eight annas an acre, $\frac{4}{16}$ ths to be borne by Government, $\frac{2}{16}$ ths by the landlords and $\frac{1}{16}$ ths by the raiyats in the area for which records have been finally published in the Hajipur subdivision.

CHAMPARAN.

67. Mr. E. G. Colvin, c.s., was Settlement Officer in Champaran and Saran until the 23rd February 1895, when he was obliged by ill-health to take leave. From that date till the end of the year Mr. P. C. Lyon was in charge in Champaran and Saran, as well as in Muzaffarpur and Gaya. Nine Assistant Settlement Officers were employed in Champaran in the early part of the field season and ten in the latter part, viz., four, Babu Narendra Kumar Ghose, Maulvi Habibur Rahaman, Maulvi Abdul Salek, and Babu Hemangshu Nath Chakravarti, in inspecting the initial record-writing and in summarily deciding village boundary disputes; four, viz., Maulvi Saiyyid Ahmed Ali Khan, Pundit Ram Balab Misra, Babu Nolin Chandra Ray, and Maulvi Abdul Hakam, on attestation; one, Maulvi Ghulam Ghoas, chiefly on case work; and one, Mr. C. A. Bell, in general charge. In the recess months from May to September three Assistant Settlement Officers were employed on case-work. Mr. C. A. Bell was succeeded by Mr. J. H. Kerr in August 1895. Mr. Colvin was in camp for 66 days between the 1st October 1894 and the 22nd February 1895. The days spent in camp by the Assistant Settlement Officers are shown in statement A attached to the Settlement Officer's report.

68. *Field survey and initial record-writing.*—Field survey of an area of 1,162 square miles and record-writing for 1,058 villages with an area of 1,176 square miles as returned by the Survey Department, or 1,168 square miles as returned by the Settlement Officer, were completed during the year under report by Messrs. R. B. Smart and A. W. Smart, Assistant Superintendents of Survey. The Assistant Settlement Officers inspected the record-writing in 542 villages and tested the khasra entries for 17,247 out of the $13\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of fields entered in the khasras or for nearly 1·3 per cent.

Village boundary disputes.—Three hundred and sixty-two village boundary disputes were summarily disposed of during the year under the Survey Act. In 19 out of 21 appeal cases decided during the year, the orders of the Revenue Officers were upheld, in 1 case were modified and in 1 case were reversed.

Attestation.—The four officers employed on attestation of records during the field season began work at the end of October or beginning of November 1894 and attested records for 372 villages with an area of 488·18 square miles. Adding to this the attestation work done by Mr. J. Kerr, Assistant Settlement Officer, in Motihari Municipality during September 1895, and some

attestation work done by Pandit Ram Balab Misra in the same month, records were attested in all during the season for villages 376, square miles 491.45, tenants 73,695, and plots 470,660. Except the work in the Municipality, the programme of attestation work in Champaran was practically completed before the end of April. The rate of progress during the field season of the four officers who worked on an average five and-a-half months each appears to have been about 21,500 plots per mensem (not 25,000 plots as stated in the Settlement Officer's report), and the average area dealt with by each officer during the season was 120 square miles. Mr. Lyon writes :—

“On the whole the attestation work was carried through with a remarkable absence of friction. A large proportion of the area dealt with was held by three large indigo concerns; and very great assistance was given to us in the preparation of the records by the managers and assistants of the factories. The attendance both of landlords and raiyats was good; and with the help of carefully kept and systematically arranged zamindari papers most of the difficulties of the attestation work were quickly surmounted.”

Settlement of fair rents.—In 323 cases rents were settled for 17,896 tenants during the year, viz., for 336 tenants by Mr. Colvin, for 4,710 tenants by Maulvi Gholam Ghous, for 1,853 tenants by Mr. C. A. Bell, for 5,867 tenants by Pandit Ram Balab Misra, for 5,044 tenants by Maulvi Saiyyid Ahmed Ali Khan, and for 86 tenants by Mr. J. H. Kerr. Mr. Lyon gives the following figures showing work done under this head during the year under report and in previous years :—

Year.		Number of tenants for whom rents were settled.	Former rents.	Fair rents settled.	Increase.	Percentage of increase.
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1892-93 and 1893-94	...	17,105	1,07,439	1,20,833	13,394	12.46
1894-95	...	17,896	1,46,393	1,61,831	15,438	10.54
Total	...	35,001	2,53,832	2,82,664	28,832	11.35

Out of the additional rent of Rs. 15,438 decreed during the year, only Rs. 780 have been given under section 30 of the Tenancy Act on the ground of “prevailing rate,” and Rs. 14,658 have been given on the ground of “excess area.” A large part of the increase has been decreed in accordance with compromises arranged between the landlords and the tenants. There has been a noticeable decrease in the percentage of increase given as the work has proceeded from areas in the north, where there is much waste land, to areas more south, where there is less waste land. No enhancements have been given on the ground of rise of prices. Mr. Kerr, the Assistant Settlement Officer in charge in Champaran, writes that landlords have signally failed to establish their claims to enhancement on this ground. He writes :—

“This is mainly owing to the unsatisfactory nature of the evidence produced by them (the landlords). This has consisted solely of statistics compiled from the official gazette and of vague oral statements. No local grain dealers' account-books have been produced in any case, though these would have formed the most satisfactory evidence. This is generally attributed to the reluctance of the mahajans to produce their accounts in Court.”

I am unable to agree with the Settlement Officer that rise in prices is an unsatisfactory basis for enhancement of rents. The difficulties in proof of rise of prices should be removed by price-lists for past and present times being carefully compiled by public officers; and if the provisions of the Evidence Act really throw any difficulty in the way of Revenue officers and Courts in admission of such statements, legislation should be undertaken to make them at least relevant in evidence. Down to the end of September 1895 existing rents had been recorded for 142,491 tenants in Champaran paying rents exceeding 8 lakhs. Fair rents have been settled, therefore, in this district for not quite 25 per cent. of the tenants for whom existing rents have been recorded, and the percentage of increase of rent on the whole attested rental is about 3 per cent.

In 15 out of 23 cases of settlement of fair rents appealed to the Special Judge and decided since the beginning of the operations, the decisions of the Revenue officers have been upheld, and in 8 cases their decisions have been modified.

Publication.—Records for 316 villages with an area of 400 square miles were published in draft during the year under report. Since the beginning draft records for 567 villages with an area of 826 square miles have been published. Records for 247 villages with an area of 400 square miles were finally published during the year. There had been final publication of records for 7 square miles only previous to the year under report.

Case-work under sections 105 and 106.—Ten hundred and ninety-seven objections under section 105 of the Tenancy Act were disposed of during the year, and 703 such objections were pending at the close of the year. Three hundred and twenty-eight suits were disposed of under section 106 of the Act, add 8 were pending at the end of the year. In the only 4 cases decided out of 29 appeals instituted in this class of cases before the Special Judge the findings of the Revenue officers were upheld.

69. Statistics of status, area, and rent have been tabulated for 72,932 tenancies, exclusive of tenancies held by under-
Statistics of status, area, and rents. raiyats in 475 villages, comprising an area of about 607 square miles. Of these tenancies, 56,470, or 77·42 per cent., are held by settled and occupancy raiyats; 651, or ·89 per cent., are held by raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents; 9,479, or 12·99 per cent., are held by non-occupancy raiyats; 3,521, or 4·84 per cent., are held by rent-free holders; 24, or ·03 per cent., have been recorded as true *sir*; 262, or ·35 per cent., are held by proprietors, but are not true *sir*; 2,525, or 3·46 per cent., are in the cultivating possession of tenure-holders and farmers.

The average rate of rents to the acre paid by settled occupancy raiyats is Re. 1-10-9 for cropped lands only, or Re. 1-7-5 for the entire holding; by raiyats at fixed rates Re. 1-1-3 for cropped lands only, or 13 annas for the entire holding; and by non-occupancy raiyats Rs. 2-1 for cropped lands only, or Re. 1-11 for the entire holding.

70. The expenditure incurred by the Settlement Officer during the year amounted to Rs. 57,670. The total expenditure
Expenditure. incurred in this district, exclusive of survey expenditure, down to the end of the year under report has been Rs. 1,27,814, but a portion of this expenditure will ultimately be debited to Saran.

71. On the basis of the accounts of expenditure incurred down to date, it has been decided that the rate of recovery in the
Apportionment and recovery. villages in the Bettiah subdivision in which records have been finally published shall be 8 annas an acre.

SARAN.

72. No new area was taken up in Saran for field survey and initial
Area dealt with. record-writing in season 1894-95. The programme of work was therefore confined to the area of 527 square miles in the north of the district for which records were written in season 1893-94.

73. As stated in paragraph 67 Mr. E. G. Colvin, c.s., was Settlement Officer
Staff. in Saran till the 23rd February 1895, when he was succeeded by Mr. P. C. Lyon. Four Assistant Settlement Officers—Mr. M. F. Gauntlett, Munshi Nandji, Babu Hem Chandra Chatterji, and Babu Makhan Lal Chatterji—were employed in this district for the whole or nearly the whole of the year, and three more—viz., Maulavi Ashfak Hosain, Maulavi Ghulam Ghoas, and Babu Nolin Chandra Ray—for portions of the year. The days spent in camp by each officer are shown in Appendix A to the Settlement Officer's report.

74. *Attestation.*—Five circles were formed for attestation work with a total
Progress. area of 487·41 square miles contained in villages for the most part belonging to the Maharaja of Hatwa. In these circles five officers worked for the whole of the field season from the end of October to May, or nearly for the whole season, and one officer worked for 1½ month. In the aggregate the six officers gave 31 months to attestation work and attested records for 1,160 villages with an area of 487·41 square miles containing 125,315 tenants and 749,533 plots. On an average each officer attested a little over 24,000 plots a month. This is the largest rate of attestation work attained during the year in any district. Work was much facilitated by the fact

that the area dealt with was compact and belonged almost entirely to one proprietor and by the good records kept by the proprietor. On the other hand, work was hindered by claims made by the Hatwa Raj with regard to record of private lands, with regard to "birt" lands, *i.e.*, lands given by the Raj or alleged by the holders to have been given for religious purposes and by claims made by the Raj with regard to trees. In connection with the claims of the Raj to *sir* lands, or private lands, the difficult question has been raised and referred to the Board as to whether the status of true *sir* can still attach, though dormant, to lands in which occupancy rights have been acquired by raiyats. I am not aware that this question has before been raised.

Mr. Lyon writes that the people generally in Saran have followed the settlement operations with keener interest and appreciation than he has noticed anywhere else in Bihar.

Settlement of rents.—In the area of 506 square miles containing 130,445 tenants whose existing rents have been attested, no fewer than 2,920 cases affecting over 30,000, or about 23 per cent. of the tenants, have been brought, chiefly by the Hatwa Raj, for the settlement of rents.

The opportunity afforded by the settlement operations is being extensively and methodically used by the Hatwa Raj for the purpose of obtaining a large increase of rents. Mr. Lyon writes:—

"The agents of the landlord have received instructions to petition for the assessment to rent of all lands found in excess of those held by each raiyat or his predecessor in interest at the time of the measurement of the estate 20 years ago, and at the same time to raise rates under section 30 of the Bengal Tenancy Act in all cases in which the holders of excess lands were found to hold at favourable rates."

Rents have not been increased in the Hatwa Raj, the Settlement Officer states, for 20 years, *i.e.*, since the time of the settlement made when the estate was under the Court of Wards, "and then only by the assessment of excess areas." In the present operations the Raj makes tenants an allowance of one cottah in the bigha, or $\frac{1}{20}$ th to cover difference caused by the exactness of the present survey, and claims rent for area still in excess of the area recorded at the last survey of the estate at the rate paid by the raiyat for his holding, unless that rate is particularly high and the land in excess, being newly cultivated land, is inferior to the rest of the holding, in which case a lower rate is claimed, or unless the raiyat's rate for his holding is substantially lower than the average rate paid in the village, in which case the claim is made at the average village rate.

In 1,787 cases rents have been settled during the year for 19,783 tenants, *viz.*, for 1,974 tenants by Mr. M. F. Gauntlett, for 2,754 tenants by Munshi Nandji, for 4,085 tenants by Babu Makhan Lal Chatterji, for 6,706 tenants by Maulavi Ghulam Ghoas, and for 4,264 tenants by Babu Hem Chandra Chatterji. Including 426 tenants for whom rents were settled in the previous year, rents have been settled in all for 20,209 tenants, with the result that the former rents aggregating Rs. 2,30,707 have been raised to Rs. 2,60,774, or by 13 per cent. In the case of about 17,000 of the tenants the rents were settled by compromise between the landlord and the tenants. In statement E attached to the Settlement Officer's report for the year, the figures of increase have been analysed so far as regards the great bulk of the rents settled. On attested rents aggregating Rs. 2,13,810 a total enhancement of Rs. 9,547, or 4.46 per cent., has been given on the ground of prevailing rate and of Rs. 22,154, or 10.36 per cent., on the ground of excess area. A decrease of Rs. 2,074 has been allowed on the ground of diminution of area (probably part of the diminished area has been absorbed in other tenancies). The net increase of rents is Rs. 29,627, or 13.85 per cent. Mr. Lyon remarks that the addition to the Hatwa rent-roll will probably amount to Rs. 50,000 by the time that the fair rent proceedings in this estate are over. This will mean an increase of the total raiyati rent-roll of the Hatwa Raj in the Saran district (*i.e.*, exclusive of villages in Champaran), which is understood to be about Rs. 9,68,000, by over 5 per cent., to be obtained at the average rate of about 13 per cent. from some 20 per cent. of the tenants.

Figures showing the average rent rates in Saran have not been tabulated. Last year the average rent rate for settled raiyats was shown for a small area and a small number of tenancies as Rs. 4-13-5 to the cultivated acre. It was

stated to me by the Manager of the Hatwa Raj that the average rent rate to the acre in the Raj villages in Saran is Rs. 4. I am not prepared to say that an average rate in excess of Rs. 4 an acre is too high a rent in Saran; but it would appear that such a rent is a high average rent as compared with average rates for the districts of the North-Western Provinces immediately adjoining these Provinces.* It is about twice as high as the average rent rate which is working out as figures are being tabulated for Champaran, but is probably less than the average rent rate taken in Muzaffarpur. It behoves landlords in Bihar as well as the Revenue Officers to consider carefully whether agricultural lands are capable of bearing enhanced rents before application is made for enhancement; and it behoves the Maharaja of Hatwa to consider carefully whether the increased rents should in all cases be collected. If it is not intended to collect the increased rents in all cases, it is clearly inexpedient to apply to the Revenue Officers to decree them.

On the general economic ground that there is no room for rent except from the surplus produce remaining over after the cost of production has been met, and in view of the anxious outlook as to the future of the teeming population of the Saran district, the remarks made by Mr. Gauntlett and by Mr. Lyon with reference to the insufficiency of the food produced in the district to feed the population have force. Looking to the already high average rate of rent in this district, I am not sure that it is desirable on any ground whatever to raise rents other than rents substantially lower than normal rents and lower without sufficient cause. But the attack made by Messrs. Gauntlett and Lyon on this ground of enhancement, which, with the exception of the ground of landlords' improvements, is probably the least assailable of all grounds of enhancement, does not seem to me in itself sound. For the reasons which are urged in the Settlement Officer's report, enhancement of agricultural rents, or indeed all claim to agricultural rents, might be forbidden in Great Britain, because Great Britain does not feed itself. The ground of enhancement on account of rise of prices as provided in section 32 of the Bengal Tenancy Act is one of the greatest possible lenity to the raiyat; and without total confiscation of the rights of landlords and bestowal upon the raiyats of the whole of the unearned increment, of which probably not less than 80 to 90 per cent. has already in many cases been surrendered to the raiyat† under this provision of the Act, it is difficult to see what more could be done for him.

Only one appeal has been preferred to the Special Judge in this district with regard to a rent settled.

Publication.—Records for 265 villages with an area of 150 square miles were published in draft during the year under report. Since the beginning draft records for 333 villages with an area of 169 square miles have been published. Records for 57 villages with an area of 14 square miles were finally published during the year. There had been no final publication previous to the year under report.

The question whether it is legal and expedient that publication of draft records should be made before settlement of rents under section 104 of the Tenancy Act was much discussed in the year 1894 at the time that the Government rules under the Bengal Tenancy Act were being revised. In paragraph 19 of his report on Saran, and also in his report on Champaran, Mr. Lyon shows cause for reconsideration of this question. I shall report separately on it. I may state here, however, that the evidence which the reports disclose of the imperfection of the attested record as a basis for settlement of rents tends to strengthen my convictions (1) that attestation of occupancy should be done as in other provinces from field to field, and (2) that the provisions of the Code

* The average rent rates to the acre in the Mirzapur, Ghazipur, Ballia and Gorakhpur districts as shown in the statement printed on pages 18B to 19B of the Appendices to the report by the Board of Revenue in the North-West Provinces for the year ending 30th September 1894 are respectively :—

				Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.
In Mirzapur for privileged and occupancy tenants	...	...	...	2 6 8	for tenants-at-will	1 14 6
„ Ghazipur	...	...	...	4 1 11	„	5 4 2
„ Ballia	...	...	...	4 0 1	„	3 13 10
„ Gorakhpur	...	...	...	2 14 6	„	2 8 5

† The following calculation may be considered :—A raiyat paid Rs. 2 twenty years ago for an area of land producing 15 maunds of paddy worth Rs. 15. If prices should double the paddy will be worth Rs. 30. The landlord can get as rent under section 32 of the Bengal Tenancy Act Rs. 2 + $\frac{1}{3}$ of Rs. 2. The raiyat gets 91 per cent. of the unearned increment.

of Civil Procedure, which fetter the Revenue officer acting under Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act in settlement of rents and in review of decisions, are unsuitable when rights and rents have to be adjusted for thousands of tenants. It is because in Bengal the attestation stage is a stage for completing an incomplete record of tenancies and rents that this stage cannot itself be made, even when no applications for settlement of fair rents are received, the stage of draft publication.

Case-work under sections 105 and 106 of the Tenancy Act.—Four hundred and fifteen objections under section 105 of the Tenancy Act were disposed of during the year, and 404 such objections were pending at the close of the year.

Twenty-three suits were disposed of under section 106 of the Act, and 12 were pending at the end of the year. Two appeals in this class of cases instituted during the year were pending before the Special Judge at its close.

75. Statistics of status have been tabulated for 112,347 tenancies, exclusive of tenancies held by under-raiyats. Of these tenancies 89,985, or 81 per cent., are held by settled and occupancy raiyats; only 205, or .18 per cent., are held by raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents; 7,176, or 6.38 per cent., are held by non-occupancy raiyats; 10,960, or 9.75 per cent., are held by rent-free-holders; 2,586, or 2.30 per cent., have been recorded as true *sir*; 776, or .69 per cent., are held by proprietors, but are not true *sir*; 659, or .58 per cent., are in the cultivating possession of tenure-holders.

As stated in paragraph 74 above, the average rates of rent have not been compiled. This omission is due to the fact that on account of the large number of fair rent cases instituted, and the consequent delay in draft publication, it was not thought worth while to complete the *tirijes* and tabulate the rents. This work should at once be put in hand for all villages in which draft publication has been made, as it is of great importance that the average rents should be known.

76. The expenditure incurred on settlement during the year is shown to have amounted to Rs. 36,460, but this does not include a portion of the Settlement Officer's pay; and accounts have still to be adjusted between Champaran and Saran.

ESTATES OF HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF HILL TIPPERA IN TIPPERA AND NOAKHALI DISTRICTS.

77. The estates of His Highness the Maharaja of Hill Tippera in Tippera and Noakhali districts have been surveyed on His Highness's application under Chapter X of the Tenancy Act, and attestation and settlement are now proceeding. The area of these estates according to the latest returns is 555.64 square miles. They are contained in 1,510 villages and have been surveyed in 897,851 plots. The total number of tenancies is 236,275.

78. Mr. J. G. Cumming, c.s., took charge of this settlement from the 21st October 1894 and had three Assistants for portions of the year, viz., Babu Bisweswar Bhattacharjya from 8th November 1894 to 31st May 1895, Maulavi Fazl-ur Rahman from 9th November 1894 to 21st February 1895, and Babu Charu Chandra Chatterji from 19th March to 24th May 1895. Mr. Cumming took three months' privilege leave from the 23rd June. His Assistants had reverted to general duty before that date. Mr. Cumming spent 172 days on tour, Babu Bisweswar Bhattacharjya 199 days, Maulvi Fazl-ur Rahman 91 days, and Babu Charu Chandra Chatterji 67 days.

79. Survey and initial record-writing had been completed before the year under report.

Boundary disputes.—Six village boundary disputes were disposed of during the year.

Attestation.—During the year records were attested and rents and status recorded in 327 villages with an area of 89.49 square miles and containing 29,119 tenants and 132,046 plots. Adding to this the work done by the same staff in two small separate estates, Palpara and Gangamandal (separately dealt

with in paragraphs 85 and 86 of this report), the average outturn of plots attested for each month for each officer was 9,196 only, or not half the number estimated in the programme for the season. The causes for the short outturn are stated in paragraph 10 of the Settlement Officer's report, which is printed as an Appendix to this Report. Briefly it may be stated that on account of the intricate system of taluks, the large number of disputes, and the obstructive attitude of the tenants, the task of making a record of rights has been more difficult in Tippera than in any other part of these provinces. Altogether records have only been attested since work began in 336 out of 1,510 villages in the Maharaja's estates.

Fair rents settled.—Applications for settlement of fair rents were filed in 90 villages during the year under report and in 12 villages in the previous year for settlement of fair rents. Sixteen cases in five villages affecting 177 tenants were disposed of during the year, with the result that former rents of 75 tenants aggregating Rs. 771-9-5 were raised to Rs. 1,065-14-4, and existing rents of 57 tenants aggregating Rs. 596-2-10 were settled as fair. Increase was given both on the ground of prevailing rate and on the ground of excess area, but chiefly on the latter ground.

Publication.—Publication of draft records has been made in five villages only. No final publication has yet been made.

Objections under section 105 and cases under section 106.—Three objections under section 105 were instituted during the year; none were disposed of. No cases were instituted under section 106 during the year, but three were pending from the preceding year, of which one only was disposed of.

80. Statistics of rent and status have been tabulated for 29,944 tenancies (exclusive of holdings of under-raiyats), with the result that 25,555 tenancies, or 85·3 per cent., are found to be held by settled and occupancy raiyats, 2,697, or 9·01 per cent., are held by tenure-holders, 460, or 1·5 per cent., are held by non-occupancy raiyats, and 863, or 2·8 per cent., by rent-free holders. The average rent paid per acre by settled raiyats is Rs. 3-8-2, but this is a rent calculated over the whole holding, and not on the cultivated land only.

81. The cost incurred on settlement during the year was Rs. 33,268-2-10 and from the beginning Rs. 68,073-4-4. The total expenditure. cost of survey during the year was Rs. 2,834, and the total cost incurred by the Survey Department on these estates from the beginning has been Rs. 1,93,696-4-6.

SONTHAL PARGANAS.

82. The settlement work done in the Sonthal Parganas during the year was not under my supervision; and I have received little information about it.

No fresh settlements were taken up during the year. The final publication of the khatians and record of rights of the villages measured and settled during the year ending 30th September 1894 (see paragraph 107 of the Report for that year) was made during the month of October 1894.

Minor operations.

CHAURASI ESTATES IN THE 24-PARGANAS.

83. The survey and settlement of the Chaurasi estates has been undertaken on the application of the proprietors, Maharaja Doorga Charan Laha and others, under order No. 133R.L., dated 17th June 1892, passed by the Commissioner under section 103 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

The estates have an area of about 20,464 acres, or about 33 square miles, contained in 53 villages, and are situated in the subdivision of Barasat. Traverse survey of the estates was begun in May 1894. Field survey began on 1st December 1894. Khasra-writing began on the 16th February, and was completed by the end of July. The number of fields is 62,129. Babu Jotindra Nath Gupta, the Settlement Officer, was engaged in supervising the record-writing from the middle of February to the end of July. He visited all the villages, disposed of 15 village boundary disputes, and dealt summarily with other disputes. Records for 23 of the villages had been delivered to the Settlement Officer by the Survey Department by the end of October 1895.

The cost incurred during the year so far as I have figures has been Rs. 6,868-12-1 for survey and Rs. 1,936-6-9 for settlement.

TANTIBUNIA IN KHULNA.

84. Tantibunia is an estate in the Sunderbans bearing tauzi No. 848 in the revenue roll of the Khulna district. It comprises an area of about 20 square miles.

The settlement of the estate, which is the property of Government, is held by 19 persons, three of whom hold a ten-anna share, while the remaining 16 hold a six-anna share. The former are the descendants of the old settlement-holders and possess influence in the estate; the latter being new-comers experienced difficulty in realising their share of the rents of the estate, and therefore applied for a survey and record of rights of the estate under Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act. Their application was granted, and a notification No. 1107 L.R. under section 101 (2) (c) of the Bengal Tenancy Act was published in the *Calcutta Gazette* under date the 27th February 1894.

A detachment of the professional Survey Department, who took the field in the middle of January 1895, completed the survey and initial record-writing for the whole of the mahal during the year under report. The estate has been measured in 4,376 khasra numbers, and has been found to contain 1,237 tenancies. The traces and records are ready, and were to be sent to the Collector of Khulna at the end of October 1895.

Babu Jnanendra Nath Lahiri, Deputy Collector, visited the estate in February, March, and May in order to secure the attendance of tenants during the survey operations and record-writing, to check the record-writing, and to help the survey subordinates in the difficulties that they had met with. Altogether the Deputy Collector spent 49 days in the estate. The Survey Officers found some difficulty in their work, owing to the fact that towards the south of the estate there are no marks to indicate field boundaries. Mr. Shaw, Assistant Superintendent of Survey, in charge of the survey and records writing feared that in consequence of the absence of the non-resident tenants of the southern part of the estate at the time of writing the khasras a large number of disputes would result. The Settlement Officer says, however, that he succeeded in securing the attendance of nearly every tenant at the khasra-writing and in summarily disposing on the spot of all but one of the disputes as to fields. He disposed of 28 disputes concerning 649 khasra entries. He expects, however, that more disputes will be raised hereafter. Nine cases under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act have been instituted, and are now pending with the Settlement Officer.

The expenditure incurred on survey during the year under report has not yet been reported to me. Nothing has yet been debited to this estate on account of the pay and travelling allowance of the Settlement Officer who was an officer of the regular staff at Khulna.

CHIKNIKANDI VILLAGES IN BACKERGUNGE.

85. A survey and record of rights in respect of the lands of seven villages, known as the Chiknikandi villages, were sanctioned in Government orders No. 1042 L.R., dated 25th February 1895, issued under section 101 (2) (b) of the Tenancy Act, in order to put an end to serious disputes. Survey began in March 1895, and was completed with the khasra-writing by the end of July. The area surveyed was 3,487 acres contained in 3,620 plots. Of these plots, about 1,500 are disputed. There are 1,030 tenants of all degrees. The total cost incurred down to September 1895 has been Rs. 1,385-7. The work is being conducted by Babu Piyari Mohan Basu, Settlement Officer, in the Government estates and other estates in Backergunge. The cost incurred during the year under report was Rs. 1,385-7.

PALPARA ESTATES IN TIPPERA.

86. Survey and preparation of a record of rights in Palpara estate were sanctioned by Government notification dated 26th July 1892 under section 101 (2) (b) of the Tenancy Act, on the application of the District Magistrate, in order to settle a serious dispute between the landlords and tenants. The estate comprises 11 villages with an area of 3.19 square miles. It has been measured in 3,470 plots and contains 473 tenants.

The field survey and record-writing were completed in the year ending 30th September 1893 by the detachment of the professional survey party who made the survey of the Maharaja's estates in Tippera. Attestation of the records was made in the cold weather of 1894-95 by Maulavi Fazl-ur Rahman, an Assistant Settlement Officer in the Maharaja's estates. Applications to the number of 248 have been filed on behalf of the proprietors and 21 by the tenants for settlement of fair rents. No progress has yet been made in settlement of fair rents. The expenditure incurred on settlement during the year was Rs. 446-4-10, and from the beginning Rs. 693-12-8. The survey expenditure from the beginning has been Rs. 960.

GANGAMANDAL ESTATES, CONSISTING OF PARGANAS GANGAMANDAL AND LOHAGOR IN TIPPERA.

87. The survey of two villages, Rampur and Pachara in pargana Lohagar, and one village Ranigach in pargana Gangamandal, all belonging to the Gangamandal estate in Tippera, was sanctioned by the Divisional Commissioner in orders Nos. 157T. and 169T., dated 27th and 29th June 1893, passed under section 103 of the Tenancy Act on the application of landlords.

The three villages have an aggregate area of 1.16 square miles and contain 352 tenants. Survey and record-writing in Rampur and Pachara were completed previously to the year under report, and for Ranigach were carried out during the year. Records were attested for the three villages during the year under report by Mr. Cumming, the Settlement Officer, and by Babu Bisweswar Bhattacharjya, one of the Assistant Settlement Officers of the settlement staff on the Maharaja's estates. One hundred and sixty-eight applications for settlement of fair rents were filed during the year in these villages; none have yet been disposed of. The expenditure incurred on settlement during the year was Rs. 391-14. The survey expenditure from the beginning has been Rs. 229-11-6.

CHAPTER IV.

WARDS' ESTATES.

BURDWAN RAJ KHAS MAHALS.

88. The Settlement Officer of the Burdwan Raj Khas Mahals, Babu Sukumar Halder, was employed on settlement work from 1st October 1894 to 16th May 1895, when he reverted to general duty, but continued to supervise the settlement office work till the end of the year. He was 127 days on tour. Since the year 1891-92 he has been dealing with the following villages and areas in the Burdwan, Hooghly and Bankura districts belonging to the Burdwan Raj:—

District.		Number of villages.	Area in square miles and acres.	
Burdwan	...	77	76	527
Hooghly	...	27	13	305
Bankura	...	72	39	10
Total	...	176	129	202

89. His outturn of work for the year was as follows:—

Progress. Village boundary disputes decided ... 2

Attestation—	Villages.	Square miles and acres.		Tenants.	Plots.
In Burdwan	... 3	0	255	157	407
„ Hooghly	... 9	3	143	1,174	7,538
„ Bankura	... 23	22	351	3,608	16,569
Total	... 35	26	109	4,939*	24,514

* Exclusive of 439 under-raiyats.

Much correction of the khasras was found necessary at the attestation stage; and resurvey of 342 acres in 24 villages was made at this stage because the landlords' servants had omitted to point out lands at the time of survey.

Case-work under section 104.—The Settlement Officer of his own motion settled rents for 38 tenants in Hooghly, who held areas in excess of those for which they paid rents, and raised their rents from Rs. 467-9 to Rs. 495-8. No applications for settlement of rents were preferred during the year. In previous years rents were settled for 4,114 tenants, with the result that the former rents of Rs. 37,000 were raised to Rs. 38,998, or by $5\frac{1}{3}$ per cent.

Draft publication of records was made—

			Villages.
In Burdwan for	...	...	4
„ Hooghly „	...	...	9
„ Bankura „	...	...	23
			—
Total	...	...	36
			—

with an area of 30·376 square miles.

Final publication of records was made—

			Villages.
In Burdwan for	...	...	6
„ Hooghly „	...	...	3
„ Bankura „	...	...	58
			—
Total	...	...	67
			—

Objections under section 105 disposed of ... 551

Disputes under section 106 disposed of ... 13

At the end of the year under report records had been published in draft for 152 villages, and finally published for 144 out of the 176 villages from which the records have been dealt with by the Settlement Officer. Fifty-nine objections under section 105 and three suits under section 106 were pending at the end of the year. Correspondence is going on with regard to exclusion from the operations under the Tenancy Act of a large number of villages in Bankura which were surveyed for the most part four or five seasons ago, but which are not in the possession of the Raj.

90. The Settlement Officer has tabulated statistics for 17,279 out of 25,949 tenancies recorded in the settlement khatians. There are only 21 raiyats at fixed rates; 7,571 or 43·80 per cent. of the tenancies are held by settled and occupancy-raiyats; 973 or 5·6 per cent. are held by non-occupancy tenants; 939 or 5·4 per cent. are rent-free holdings; and 7,630 or 44·1 per cent. are returned as “other kinds.” The “other kinds” include 5,119 persons who are not paying rent, *i.e.*, who are squatters without apparent title unless by prescription, also jagirs and other service lands. Rents are noticeably high in Hooghly, where settled raiyats pay at the average rate of Rs. 8-4-8 a cultivated acre. The Settlement Officer that the lands which pay these high rates grow tobacco, potatoes, sugarcane, flax, jute and pulses. In Burdwan the average rate to the cultivated acre for settled raiyats is Rs. 3-15-1 an acre and in Bankura is Rs. 3-4-1. To the Bankura rate apparently something has to be added to represent produce rents paid in some cases.

91. The expenditure incurred on settlement during the year was Rs. 11,577-9, and the total expenditure incurred on settlement of these 176 villages, exclusive of survey, since the beginning has been Rs. 41,065-9-10.

DAKHIN SHAHBAZPUR ESTATES, BACKERGUNGE.

92. Pargana Dakhin Shahbazpur consists of two estates, Nos. 1763 and 1764 of the Backergunge tauzi—the former comprising a 12*a.* 18*g.* 1*k.* 2*kt.* share and the latter 3*a.* 1*g.* 2*k.* 1*kt.* share of the entire pargana. The pargana has lost a large portion of its lands by diluvion. It now consists of 37 villages on the main land of Dakhin Shahbazpur island and 10 chars in the river Meghna, and has a total area of 146·58 square miles, of which 125·66 square miles have been

surveyed cadastrally. The total area of the main land according to a survey made in 1847-48 was 172.49 square miles, or 110,391 acres, and according to the revenue survey of 1864-65 167.60 square miles, or 107,264 acres.

The number of plots surveyed is 174,476. So complicated and numerous are the grades of intermediate interests between the proprietors and actual cultivators that it has been found necessary to repeat the plot entries in the tenure-holders' khatians as well as in the raiyats' khatians. The number of plot entries in the khatians has therefore amounted to 489,736 or nearly three times the number of plots. The total number of tenants is 30,125, consisting of 5,647 tenure-holders, 21,681 raiyats, and 2,797 under-raiyats.

Out of the total number of 30,125 tenancies, fair rents have been fixed on application in respect of 7,839 tenancies; and in the case of 4,276 tenancies in which the rents were either unfair or uncertain, the rents were amicably arranged and entered in the column for "Existing rent ascertained," with a remark that the rents have been arrived at by mutual agreement. There has been no alteration of rent with respect to the remaining 18,010 tenancies, but regarding most of them the rent was disputed and had to be determined.

Most of the work of settlement of this estate had been completed by the Settlement Officer Babu Piyari Mohan Basu before the beginning of the year under report. The work done during the year under report has been the publication of records for one village, the correction of the khasra, preparation of tirij, comparison of copies, and apportionment and part recovery of cost. The records are now being made over to the Collectorate record-room.

The expenditure incurred on settlement of these estates during the year was Rs. 7,662-12-10.

Apportionment of the expenditure between the landlords and tenants has been completed, and recovery of Rs. 35,500 out of the net sum of Rs. 77,962 to be recovered has been made. The completion report is promised shortly.

SRIKAMPUR ESTATE IN BACKERGUNGE.

93. Pargana Srirampur comprises zamindari Baidyanath Mitra and two kharija taluks, Abu Rabiulla and Fatima Khanam. Survey and settlement of these estates were undertaken under the sanction conveyed in the Board's letter No. 133A., dated 23rd January 1893. The estates comprise nine villages with a total area of 6,086 acres, which have been surveyed in 13,988 plots and contain 2,215 tenants of all degrees.

Mr. Dwija Das Dutta, who was in charge of the survey up to 1st September 1894, began survey in December 1893, and finished the survey of 5,877 acres. He also attested records of two small villages with an area of 278 acres. The work done during the year under report by the Settlement Officer Babu Piyari Mohan Basu, who succeeded Mr. Dutta was the re-survey and correction of maps and records in six villages; attestation of records in seven villages; settlement of rents for 1,481 tenants in one village; publication of draft records in eight villages, and final publication in one village. The total cost incurred in the survey-settlement of these estates during the year ending 30th September 1895 was Rs. 2,882-11-6 and from the beginning has been Rs. 6,761-13-5.

TIKARI WARD'S ESTATE IN GAYA AND PATNA.

94. The Settlement Officer shows that an area of 400.53 square miles has been surveyed in detail in this estate since the beginning of the operations in 1893. This does not include the boundary survey of a large number of villages held from the Raj on permanent leases. It was decided that except in the case of the Balkhara mahal, in which Government and the Court of Wards have joined in the application for survey and record of rights, the record of rights for the Tikari estate must be confined to villages in which the Raj has a proprietary interest not less than eight annas.

95. The settlement was in charge of Mr. P. C. Lyon, c.s., who was also Settlement Officer in all the North Bihar districts for the greater part of the year. Mr. Lyon visited

Staff.

the district three times during the year under report to inspect the work. Mr. Lyon had a staff of five Assistants during the greater part of the field season from November to April, and one Assistant during the recess months from May to September for the work on this estate and in the Government estates under settlement in this district. Babu Annada Charan Gupta, the Assistant Settlement Officer in immediate charge, during the year spent 192 days in camp, Babu Jogendra Chandra Bhanja spent 151 days in camp, Maulvi Mohiuddin Ahmed spent 154 days in camp, Babu Charu Chandra Chatterji spent 124 days in camp, between the 1st November and the 12th March, when he was transferred to settlement work in Tippera, Mr. Rowland Nogendra Lal Chandra spent 160 days in camp, Babu Gopi Krishna Lal reverted to general duty on account of ill-health after 16 days only of settlement work. Four of the five Assistant Settlement Officers were employed on attestation and entry of existing rents and status in records for an area of 317.73 square miles, and three of them supervised record-writing in scattered areas of 66 square miles belonging to the Tikari estate and 88 square miles contained in Government estates.

96. *Survey and record-writing.*—In Gaya district field survey of 13 square miles (including 2 square miles of revision) and record-writing for 63 square miles were completed during the year. In Patna district field survey and record-writing were completed in 6 square miles contained in 8 villages. A skeleton boundary survey was also made of 42 villages leased out permanently by the Raj containing an aggregate area of 23 square miles.

Boundary disputes.—Three hundred and thirty one village boundary disputes were disposed of during the year chiefly by Babu Annada Charan Gupta. Some of these were of a difficult nature. Eleven appeals were preferred against the Assistant Settlement Officer's decisions; in nine cases the Assistant Settlement Officer's decisions were upheld, in one modified, and in one reversed.

Attestation.—Records were attested for 441 villages with an area of 317.73 square miles and containing 27,612 tenants and 388,837 plots. This work was done at the rate of about 18,500 plots a month for each officer employed. It was facilitated in this estate (1) by the fact of the tenancies being held for the most part under one landlord only, viz., the Court of Wards, who had already a jamabandi in the main correct, (2) by the large number of fields included in a tenancy, and (3) by the fact of the greater portion of the rents consisting of produce rents. The work was made more difficult than elsewhere, because the villages in which the staff worked are much scattered, also by the apathy and want of intelligence which the Settlement Officer notices on the part of the poorer tenants and by the complications of the special rents known as "shikmi," "chakat," and "paran," which are described in paragraphs 8 to 10 of the Settlement Officer's report.

Settlement of fair rents.—Only three cases affecting 111 tenants were instituted for settlement of rents by the Manager of the Court of Wards. In the case of all but 19 of the tenants the application was made on the ground of the tenants holding areas in excess of those for which they were paying rents. The rents of the tenants concerned were increased on this ground from Rs. 2,883 to Rs. 3,749. Mr. Lyon writes:—

"The heavy increase thus shown, 33 per cent., is due to the fact that only very gross instances of increase in area and under-assessment to rent were brought before us. The rents as settled by the Assistant Settlement Officer are fair and equitable, and in no way exceed the average rents paid by other raiyats in the neighbourhood."

I have perused the judgments in two of the three fair rent cases. In one case the tenants gave consent to the increase on the ground of excess area. An apparently liberal concession of four kattas in the bigha, or 25 per cent. on the area formerly recorded in the names of the tenants, was given to them before the additional area was assessed. In another case enhanced rent was decreed against 19 tenants on the ground of prevailing rate. The increase given was substantial; but to prevent hardship the Assistant Settlement Officer did not give the whole enhancement resultant from application of what he found to be the prevailing rate; whereas he found Rs. 5-11 a bigha (about an acre)

to be the prevailing rate, he enhanced up to Rs. 4 a bigha only. In the third case increase was given for additional area only, the tenants not entering appearance. The evidence showed that the rent paying area had increased to 561 bighas from 415 bighas before recorded. Allowance of 42 bighas was made to cover difference of measurement, and the remaining land was assessed to additional rent.

It was decided by Government that the produce rents in this estate should not be commuted against the will of the tenants.

Publication of records.—Publication of draft records was made during the year for 440 out of the 441 villages for which records were attested. Final publication was not made for any village pending receipt of orders of the Board on the subject of abwabs.

Case-work under sections 105 and 106.—Three hundred and fifty-nine objections were instituted under section 105 and were all disposed of during the year. Sixteen cases were disposed of under section 106 out of 20 instituted.

97. Statistics of tenancy, areas, and rents have been tabulated for 27,612 tenancies. Settled and occupancy raiyats hold 22,655, or nearly 81 per cent., of these tenancies; rent-free holders have 2,097 tenancies, or 7 per cent. of the whole number; and non-occupancy raiyats have 1,137 tenancies, or 4 per cent. of the whole number. Nearly three-fourths of the rent-paying area is held on produce rents. The average rate of cash rent to the acre paid by settled and occupancy raiyats is Rs. 4-7-3. Mr. Lyon makes an interesting examination of the statistics of areas, rents, and tenancies in paragraphs 19 to 23 of his report.

98. The expenditure of the Settlement Officer during the year under report, inclusive of the cost of supervision of record-writing in the Government estates in Gaya, which has not yet been separated, is returned as Rs. 33,104. Mr. Lyon reckons that after allowing for the expenditure incurred in boundary survey of the villages let by the Raj on mukarrari lease and in survey and record-writing in the case of villages afterwards excluded from the operations on the ground of their not belonging to the Raj in proprietary right to the extent of 8 annas, the whole cost of the operations will be about 7 annas 6 pies to the acre.

99. The survey and settlement operations have been carried out in the Tikari estate in a satisfactory manner. I think that the Manager might probably, if he had wished, have obtained a larger increase of cash rents on the ground of excess area held by his tenants, but there is much to be said for the kindly policy of leaving the tenants' rents untouched.

The Settlement Officer has written an interesting report and has given interesting statistics which will help to throw a light on the condition of the Gaya district.

CHAPTER V.

MAINTENANCE OF SETTLEMENT RECORDS.

100. The most important event of the year under the head of Maintenance of settlement records was the passing in April 1895 of Act III (B.C.) of 1895, to provide for the maintenance of records of tenant-rights in Bengal. The Act provides for the maintenance of records of rights in land in surveyed areas to which it may be extended by requiring tenure-holders, raiyats at fixed rents and fixed rates and settled and occupancy raiyats to register all mutations of tenant-rights whether due to succession or transfer. The registration of mutations of the rights of non-occupancy raiyats and of under-raiyats is left optional. Rules for the introduction and working of the Act were drawn up during the year under report, and were published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 16th October 1895.

101. At the instance of this Department, the Inspector-General of Registration issued a Circular No. 48, dated 30th December 1894, to all District Registrars requiring in terms of the Indian Registration Act III of 1877, that in areas which have of recent years been under survey and settlement all lands shall be described in documents presented for registration by a reference to the numbers which the lands bear in the survey map and record.

102. Under the instructions of the Board quarterly returns of mutation of tenant right and settlements of abandoned holdings or waste land on large estates belonging to Government or under the management of the Court of Wards recently surveyed were called for in my Circular No. 44S, dated 21st May 1895, addressed to the Commissioners of Burdwan, Rajshahi, Dacca, and Orissa. Under later orders such returns are to be submitted half-yearly.

103. In the following paragraphs the correspondence of the year relating to maintenance of land records in particular tracts or estates will be reviewed; and the returns of mutation of tenant rights which have been received from some estates in response to my circular cited in the last paragraph will be noticed.

TEMPORARILY-SETTLED ESTATES AND GOVERNMENT ESTATES.

Orissa Temporary-settled Estates. Area about 5,000 square miles.

104. It was declared in Government letters No. 483T.R., dated 22nd September 1894, that it is the intention of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor that the patwari system of the Upper Provinces should be introduced or resuscitated in the temporarily-settled estates of Orissa. Nothing was done during the year to reorganise patwaris in Orissa. The arrangements to be made are being considered by the Settlement Officer's careful consideration.

Khurda Government Estate in Orissa. Total area 990 square miles. Area occupied 350 to 400 square miles. Surveyed and settled in 1875—86. Number of tenancies, about 160,000.

105. Out of 924 sarbarahkars in the Khurda estate, 795 either themselves passed through a course of training in the five survey training schools which were opened on the estate in the cold weather of 1894-95 or sent substitutes. Altogether 689 of the trained men passed the examination, of whom 220 were themselves sarbarahkars. During the 18 months ending 30th September 1895 traces of maps and copies of khasras have been corrected by the sarbarahkars of Khurda, or byamins whom they have employed at their own expense, in about 867 out of the 1,378 villages of the estate. It was not considered advisable to press the sarbarahkars to continue this work while they were attending the training schools.

Cuttack Town Khas Mahals—Settled in 1875. Number of tenancies, about 3,800.

106. In the Cuttack Town khas mahals mutations due to inheritance were recorded during the quarter ending 30th June 1895 in regard to 187 tenancies covering 328 survey plots; 12 tenancies comprising 36 plots appear to have changed hands by partition; 44 tenancies comprising 91 plots by sale; while one tenancy embracing 3 plots was resettled. The returns of deceased and absconded raiyats whose holdings have not been resettled are blank.

Angul Government Estate, settled in 1886—92. Area 639 square miles (excluding 277 square miles of forest reserve), of which 144,812 acres were cultivated at the time of settlement, 628 villages, 30,396 rent-paying tenants, 350,000 khasra numbers.

107. The following is a summary account of the action taken during the year with a view to maintenance of settlement records in the Angul estate in Orissa.

The appointment of kanungos in the Angul estate was not sanctioned by the Board until the end of April 1895, in the view, as I understand, that it

was of no use to sanction kanungos until traces of village maps should be supplied to the sarbarahkars and until rules should be ready for the correction and maintenance of the records. In letter No. 1445A., dated 3rd September 1894, the Board sanctioned expenditure of Rs. 1,375 for the preparation of two traces of each of the village maps for supply to the kanungos and to the sarbarahkars.

In December 1894 the Deputy Commissioner of Angul reported that traces for 424 out of the 628 villages of the estate were ready, and that the sarbarahkars would be set to work at once to record and report mutations. All the sarbarahkars had been supplied with traces before April 1895. Copies of the khasras had been supplied to the sarbarahkars before April 1894. Three kanungos had been appointed down to the middle of May, and by the end of July all the five kanungos sanctioned, viz., one head kanungo and four chakla kanungos, had been appointed. The Deputy Commissioner reports that the head kanungo on Rs. 30 a month knows Uriya and English well, but cannot survey; the four chakla kanungos know Uriya well and can survey and have a slight knowledge of English. All are to be employed on probation for the present.

Forms for record and return of mutations by the sarbarahkars of Angul were provisionally approved by the Superintendent of the Tributary Mahals in December last. In his letter No. 641, dated 22nd May 1895, the Deputy Commissioner reported that all but 30 out of 417 sarbarahkars had submitted returns in these forms. The returns had not, however, been checked. I have no later or more detailed information as to the work done by the sarbarahkars. As far as I can judge from the correspondence a good deal of useful work has been done, and the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. H. P. Wylly, has given much attention to the work.

I have recommended that sarbarahkars or their amins and kanungos should be authorised and required to correct their traces of the village map on the ground in pencil. The inking over of the corrections (which should be done with red ink) may be deferred till the Deputy Commissioner or a gazetted officer has passed order on the kanungo's mutation report. The sarbarahkar's copy of the survey khasra may be similarly corrected.

With regard to the work to be done at head-quarters I have deprecated correction of the original survey khasra. The original survey khasra should be carefully kept in the Deputy Commissioner's record-room, to be used only for reference when required. The sarbarahkar's copy of the khasra corrected up to date is what should be used for correction of the working rent-roll. When the sarbarahkar's copy becomes too much disfigured by correction for further use, a new khasra may be written, and the opportunity may then be taken for writing it in an abbreviated form, which may be the charsala form of the Central Provinces if the Deputy Commissioner thinks best.

I understand that the present settlement came into effect from the kist of September 1892. The first of the progressive enhancements will therefore come into effect from September 1897. It is desirable that the rewriting of the working raiyatwari rent-roll at head-quarters should at once be taken in hand, with a view to all being ready for September 1897.

The question of the necessity for issue of special notice to persons concerned or general notice in the village before sanction or formal entry of a mutation in the sarbarahkar's ekpadiya and in the working rent-roll at head-quarters is the next matter which has to be considered. To prevent fraudulent alteration of tenants' names I have recommended that at least a general notice should be periodically issued from head-quarters and be published in the village, showing mutations proposed in the reports of the sarbarahkars and kanungos.

I am not in favour at present of introduction of Act III (B.C.) of 1895 into Angul, to which step the Deputy Commissioner appears to incline, but would wait for experience of the working of this Act in a less remote locality.

Majnamulha Estate under Government management in Midnapore. Area 194 square miles.

108. In January 1895 I spent three days at Contai in making an inspection of the records of this estate with a view to advising the Board on the subject

of better maintenance of the rent-rolls. I submitted a note on this subject with my letter No. 1286S., dated 26th April 1895, on which I have not received orders. No returns of mutations of tenant right registered on this estate during the year under review have reached me.

*Western Duars Government Estate. Area settled in 1888—94, 387,156 acres.
Number of jotedars 23,339. Number of chukanidars 11,176.*

109. Rules for the maintenance of the record of rights, so far as regards rights of the jotedars, i.e., the tenants paying direct to Government, and so far as regards the chukanidars who hold permanently from the jotedars, were approved in Government orders No. 1877, dated 4th April 1895. These rules prescribed maintenance of mutation registers which give in abstract the principal facts for each jotedar's or chukanidar's tenancy as recorded in the settlement. Under the same orders the settlement records have been deposited at the tahsil offices in the Duars. So far as I have information little progress was made in registration of mutations during the year. A report on progress made in writing the new mutation registers at the Western Duars Tahsils, on fees for mutations therein recorded, and on the question of extension of Act III (B.C.) of 1895 to the Western Duars was submitted to the Board in my letter No. 2702S., dated 6th September 1895.

Backergunge Government Estates and private estates under direct management. Area 155,000 acres.

110. These estates have for the most part been surveyed and settled within recent years. Important correspondence has passed during the year between the Collector, the Commissioner, and the Director on the subject of maintenance of the maps and rent-rolls for these estates. A special report on the subject has been submitted to the Board in my letter No. 2794S., dated 19th September 1895. I have not received any returns of mutations registered in these estates during the year under review.

Banki Government Estate. Area 117 square miles. Surveyed and settled in 1888—92, 26,478 rent-paying tenancies at time of settlement.

111. In continuation of the remarks made in paragraph 146 of my report for the year ending 30th September 1894, I have very little information to give as to action taken to maintain the settlement records in Banki.

During the quarter ending 30th June 1895, transfers by sale of the tenancies of 18 occupancy raiyats owning 49 survey plots were recorded. The returns of deceased and absconded raiyats whose holdings have to be resettled and of waste lands which have to be settled are blank for this estate.

Copies of the survey khasras and khatians have been supplied to the sarbarahkars in Banki; but traces of the village maps have not yet been supplied to them. Kabuliyats have been taken from the sarbarahkars, in which it is stipulated that they will carry out the rules approved by the Board in letter No. 1300A., dated 27th November 1891; but in fact, without maps and without training in survey, the sarbarahkars can do little. The Collector reported that no arrangement could be made in field season 1894-95 for training the sarbarahkars in survey.

I have recommended to the Commissioner that traces of the village maps should be supplied to the sarbarahkars, that they or their substitutes should be trained this cold weather by Inspectors to be deputed by the Survey Officer from the adjoining subdivision of Khurda, and that revision of maps, khasras, and the working rent-rolls should be undertaken on the lines on which work has been begun in Angul.

WARDS' ESTATES.

Sujamutha Ward's Estate. Area about 29,000 acres. Surveyed and settled in 1889 to 1893. Number of tenancies about 10,000.

112. Nineteen mutations of tenant right were recorded in this estate in the quarter ending June 1895; and 46 mutations were recorded in the quarter ending 30th September 1895.

Some correspondence passed during the year on the subject of instruction of the gumashtas of the estate in survey; and I have recently asked the Board to sanction necessary expenditure for supplying them with instruments.

Maldwar Ward's Estate. Area 145.4 square miles. Surveyed in 1888—90. Number of tenancies then recorded 23,019.

113. All the information to be derived from the returns for the quarter ending June 1895 received from the Maldwar estate is as follows :—

No mutation of tenant right has been recorded during the quarter. This appears to indicate that the local agency is not doing its work properly. One hundred and twenty-two tenancies of deceased and absconded tenants remained to be settled at the end of the quarter, and 106 such tenancies or tenancies in new lands were settled in this estate during the quarter.

Sankerpur Ward's Estate. Area settled in 1887—90, 246 square miles. Number of tenancies nearly 33,000.

114. For this estate, the only return submitted shows that 11 settlements of holdings of absconders or of waste lands were made during the quarter ending June 1895.

Dakhin Shahbazpur Ward's Estate. Area 146 square miles. Settlement just completed. Number of tenancies, about 30,000.

114A. I have not received any returns of mutations recorded in the ward's rent-roll. The Manager has only recently received copies of the settlement khatians. In my letter No. 2742S., dated 12th September 1895, I have submitted recommendations with regard to supply of traces of the village maps to the Manager of the Ward's estate, and with regard to periodical field to field check by the existing establishment of the estate.

Sarail Ward's Estate in Tippera. Area 277 square miles. Survey and record of rights made in 1889 to 1892. Number of tenancies 61,308.

115. The survey and settlement of the estates owned by the ward, Babu Ashutosh Nath Roy, in pargana Sarail in Tippera district, were completed, and records were finally published by the Settlement Officer in September 1892. The final report on the settlement was submitted to the Board of Revenue with this office letter No. 3224S., dated 8th December 1893. The rental for 1299 (1892-93) for the area settled was shown in the zamindar's rent-roll as Rs. 2,11,362, and the new rental, which should have come into force from April 1893, amounted to Rs 2,67,066.

When, however, the Sub-Manager began to collect rents in accordance with the new rent-roll, it was found that there were many mistakes of occupancy in the settlement khatians, and that the rents had been in many cases incorrectly calculated; the new rent could not therefore be realised. It was found necessary to revise the rent-roll and to relinquish, where necessary, a portion of the rent fixed by the Settlement Officer. The Settlement Officer, Babu Kali Sankar Sen, was again deputed to Sarail for revision work under orders of the Board of Revenue contained in their letter No. 85A., dated the 13th January 1894.

Babu Kali Sankar Sen began the work of revision on the 18th February 1894. The total number of tenancies on the estate is returned as 61,308, viz., ordinary rent-paying found at time of survey 54,314, mukarari 3,994, estimated number of tenancies formed since the survey 3,000—total 61,308. By the 30th September 1894 he had revised the khatians for 20,290. By the 30th September 1895 khatians had been revised for 22,037 more tenancies and remained to be revised for 18,981 tenancies, or 19,199 as returned by the Collector who takes account of some subdivisions of tenancies. The settlement khatians, which have been finally published, are not being corrected, but a revised rent-roll is being prepared for the Manager, and so far as is possible the signatures of the tenants are being obtained to the corrections made in the

Manager's copies of the khatians. Copies of the khatians are being delivered to the tenants as the revision work proceeds. Revision is proceeding slowly on account of the obstructive attitude of the tenants.

The result of the revision completed by the end of year has been to lower the total rents from Rs. 1,73,551 to Rs. 1,61,857 as against a rental before settlement of Rs. 1,46,136. The decrease is due, the revising Deputy Collector reports, (1) to the release of lands claimed either as rent-free or as appertaining to patni tenures, (2) to mistakes made in the settlement khatians in the calculation of rents, and (3) to the abandonment of enhancements by rates. Special assessments of chhat lands or lands adjoining the homesteads have also been abandoned. The revising Deputy Collector originally anticipated that it would not be necessary to lower the total rent originally fixed by more than Rs. 10,000; but it is likely that the reduction will amount at least to Rs. 15,000.

The cost of the revision operations carried on since February 1894 had amounted to Rs. 25,691-6-9 down to the 30th September 1895, of which Rs. 16,655-4-11 were spent during the year under report.

The revising Deputy Collector reports that down to the end of September 1895 Rs. 98,563 had been collected from 21,089 of the 42,327 tenants for whom khatians have been revised in accordance with the new rent-roll for the year 1300 or 1893-94, from which the settlement runs. I have no information as to the collections for 1894-95 and 1895-96. If even the reduced rents are punctually paid the estate will have a substantial return for the total expenditure incurred down to the end of September 1895, which appears to have amounted to Rs. 1,83,584. The Collector, Mr. R. W. Carlyle, has given much attention to the revision work and made a tour through the villages of the pargana in September last, with the object of explaining the revision work and inducing the tenants to abandon unfounded objections to payment of the new rents. These are signs that the tenants, who have been to a great extent recalcitrant, are now going to be reasonable. Certificates for realisation of rents in this estate have been very sparingly issued, and should probably now be issued in larger numbers, to show the tenants that they cannot be permitted to default without cause.

Kujang Estate in Cuttack. Area 229 square miles. Surveyed and settled in 1889—92. Number of tenancies, about 29,000, exclusive of under raiyats.

116. The returns for the Kujang estate for the quarter ending 30th June 1895 are blank as regards transfers of holdings by sale, inheritance and partition, and also as regards resettlements of the holdings of deceased and absconded raiyats. But waste lands covering 156 field plots are shewn to have been settled on this estate at existing rates of rent with 93 tenants during this quarter.

Kanika Estate in Cuttack. Area cadastrally surveyed, 278 square miles. Surveyed and settled in 1889—94.

117. In the Kanika estate a number of changes are shewn to have been recorded during the quarter ending 30th June 1895. Culturable waste and jungle lands relating to 476 survey plots were settled with 368 tenants, of whom 103 only were occupancy raiyats, 6 tenancies disappeared on account of diluviation, portions of 49 tenancies were taken up for estate works, while 4 tenancies were completely covered with sand. The returns also shew that 75 occupancy and 47 non-occupancy holdings resulted from the transfer by sale of 39 entire holdings and parts of 122 holdings, and that 127 cases were filed during the quarter before the Manager relating to transfer by inheritance.

CHAPTER VI.

MAINTENANCE OF BOUNDARY MARKS.

118. In paragraph 157 of my Report for the year ending 30th September 1894 it was stated that a proposal for amending section 15 of the Bengal Survey Act of 1875, which requires services of notices previous to erection of

permanent survey works, had been submitted for consideration, and that provisional rules for the preservation and inspection of permanent boundary marks had been drawn up. During the year under report the orders of the Board and of Government on these matters were received. The Board and His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor considered the time inopportune for any special legislation imposing any fresh obligations or burdens on landholders.

The Government of India in their letter No. 3262—167, dated the 31st October 1894, remarked that the proposed amendment of the law did not impose any fresh burden or obligation on landholders, but merely simplifies the procedure for enforcing the obligations already legalised by sections 15 and 29 of the Bengal Survey Act. The Government of India further suggested that village officials might be required to inspect and report on survey works. The subject is still under consideration. A further report was submitted to the Board in my letter No. 1S., dated 1st January 1895, on which the Board stated that they would await further report as to whether survey marks put down in recent surveys had been removed, and, if so, to what extent.

Rules for the preservation and inspection of permanent survey marks have been incorporated in Chapter IV of Part II of the new Survey and Settlement Manual. The attention of all District Officers will be drawn to these rules; and information as to their working will be given in my Report for the year 1895-96.

CHAPTER VII.

DIRECTOR'S TOURS.

119. I was in charge of this Department for the whole of the year under report. My tours were as follows:—

Champaran District from 1st to 9th November 1894.—I accompanied His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor during his inspection of settlement work in the Champaran district and inspected two Assistant Settlement Officers' attestation camps.

Muzaffarpur, Saran, and Gaya Districts from 16th to 30th November 1894.—I accompanied His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor during his inspection of settlement work in these three districts and inspected five attestation camps. I also visited the khas mahal office and Tikari ward's office at Gaya. At Gaya also I discussed Palamau settlement matters with Mr. W. R. Bright, Deputy Commissioner of Palamau.

Cuttack and Puri Districts from 8th to 22nd December 1894.—I inspected settlement work in Cuttack office and in two attestation circles; visited the survey office in Cuttack; inspected sarbarahkars being trained in survey and doing revision work in two villages in Khurda; saw soil-mapping and experimental work in settlement of fair rents in Cuttack district.

Balasore from 16th to 25th January 1895.—I inspected settlement work in Balasore and visited three attestation camps.

Midnapore District from 26th January to 5th February 1895.—I inspected the Majnamutha estate office at Contai; inspected settlement work in the Pataspur estates, visiting two attestation circles; inspected the settlement office at Midnapore; inspected the price-lists, registers, and returns in Midnapore Collectorate office.

Backergunge from 10th to 17th February 1895.—Inspected settlement work at Barisal and at Srirampur and Heshamuddin estates.

Chittagong from 21st February to 3rd March 1895.—Inspected settlement work at Chittagong in office and the work of two Assistant Settlement Officers engaged in settling rents in Belgaon and Mirkasarai circles.

Tippera from 4th to 11th March 1895.—Inspected an Assistant Settlement Officer's attestation work in camp near Comilla; inspected the settlement office at Mogra and discussed settlement work with the Settlement Officer and with His Highness the Maharaja's Manager; discussed Sarail revision work with the Collector, the Sub-Manager of the estate, and the revising Deputy Collector.

Darjeeling Terai from 30th March to 5th April 1895.—Visited Siliguri and the survey camp at Bagdogra with the Commissioner of the Division and examined soil classification.

Burdwan, 14th April 1895.—Discussed settlement work with the Settlement Officer of the Burdwan Raj khas mahals.

Muzaffarpur from 15th to 19th April 1895.—Discussed settlement work with the Settlement Officer and establishment of registers of mutations with the Settlement Officer and Collector.

Cuttack from 29th June to 14th July 1895.—Inspected settlement offices; discussed the work of tabulation of assets and other work with the Settlement Officers of Cuttack and Balasore and with the Assistant Settlement Officers. Met His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at Chandbali. His Honour discussed settlement work with the Settlement Officers and myself.

Gaya, Bankipore, Saran, Champaran and Muzaffarpur Districts from 26th July to 13th August 1895.—Inspected the Gaya Settlement Office and discussed settlement work with the Settlement Officer, the Collector and the Manager of the Tikari estate; discussed survey programme and other matters with Lieutenant Crichton and the Settlement Officer.

Visited the Survey Offices at Bankipore.

Inspected settlement work in office and saw all the five Assistant Settlement Officers engaged in settlement of rents in Saran district. Discussed settlement work with the Maharaja of Hatwa's Manager.

Visited Settlement Office at Motihari and discussed settlement work with the Assistant Settlement Officers.

Inspected Settlement Office at Muzaffarpur and accompanied His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor while he inspected the Survey and Settlement Offices.

Two conferences were held at Muzaffarpur at which His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal presided, and at which the Commissioner of Patna, the Collectors of Muzaffarpur and Champaran, the Settlement Officer, and Inspector-General of Registration were present, on the subject of the rules required for introduction of the Land Records Maintenance Act, III (B.C.) of 1895.

Dacca District from 16th to 20th August 1895.—Went with Dr. J. W. Leather, Agricultural Chemist to the Government of India, to see jute and jute steeping at Naraingunge.

Jaipur Estates in Bogra and Jalpaiguri from 22nd to 24th August 1895.—Inspected settlement records at Khanjanpur in Bogra and visited Mainaguri in Jalpaiguri to see what arrangements had been made for maintenance of records and to inspect the demonstration farm.

Altogether I spent 148 days on tour in the year and travelled 5,285 miles by rail, 2,234 miles by steamer and 848 miles by road exclusive of journeys between Calcutta and Darjeeling when no inspection work was done on the way. My touring was somewhat interfered with by my presence being required in Calcutta in March and April 1895 in connection with the Bill for maintenance of Land Records.

120. The services of the undermentioned Settlement Officers and Assistant Settlement Officers rendered during the year deserve to be specially mentioned:—

Settlement Officers.—Messrs. E. G. Colvin, P. C. Lyon, C. G. H. Allen, C. J. Stevenson-Moore, S. L. Maddox, J. G. Cumming, Babu Piyari Mohan Basu.

Assistant Settlement Officers.—Babu Chandra Nath Ghose, Mr. J. Taylor, Babu Jogendra Narayan Mitra, Mr. W. Thomson, Babu Durga Charan Ghose, Babu Annada Charan Gupta, Babu Siva Sankar Singh, Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta, Babu Raj Krishna Bahadur, Mr. S. S. Day, Babu Chinta Haran Chatterji, Mr. R. B. Hughes, Pandit Ram Balab Misra, Maulavi Ghulam Ghous, Mr. J. H. Kerr, Mr. M. F. Gauntlett, Munshi Nandji, Mr. Rowland Nagendra Lal Chandra, Mr. Sakhawat Husain.

Mr. Colvin worked indefatigably until ill-health compelled him to take leave.

The manner in which Mr. Lyon has performed his heavy duties in four districts since Mr. Colvin took leave is deserving of very high commendation. Mr. Maude has not been mentioned in the above list, because since March 1895,

he has given most of his time to his Collectorate duties. I have previously acknowledged Mr. Maude's good services in organisation of the record-writing and attestation work in Orissa.

I owe a special acknowledgment to Mr. R. Nathan, who worked in my office on special duty from the 29th November 1894 to the 30th March 1895, and gave me great assistance. The Settlement Department in Bengal owes a debt of gratitude to Mr. Nathan for much good work done during his 3½ years' service in the Department. No officer in the Department has done so much as Mr. Nathan to elucidate principles and improve procedure, or has set before himself a higher standard of accuracy in details which is the first essential in settlement work.

121. Among District Officers Mr. R. W. Carlyle in Tippera and Mr. W. R. Bright both in Palamau and Midnapore have given special attention to settlement work. I wish here to acknowledge the invariable courtesy and assistance which I have received from Colonel J. E. Sandeman, Director of Surveys, during the three years which I have worked with him, and to testify to the services which Colonel Sandeman has rendered to these provinces. I wish also to endorse the acknowledgments made by Mr. Lyon of Captain R. Crichton's services. Captain Crichton has identified himself with the work of the Settlement Officers in Orissa and Bihar. Of non-official gentlemen who have aided in the work of survey and record of rights during the year, Mr. E. Macnaghten, Secretary to the Bihar Planters' Association, Mr. C. McMin, Manager of the Maharaja's estates in Tippera, and Babu Bipin Behari Bose, Manager of the estates of the Maharaja of Hatwa must be specially mentioned.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

W. C. MACPHERSON,

*Director of the Department of Land Records
and Agriculture, Bengal.*

APPENDICES.

133028

Showing Progress made in the Settlements under the control of

DIVISION.	District.	Name of estate or tract under settlement.	Estimated area in square miles under settlement under revenue or rents.	Total number of villages.	AREA CADASTRAALLY SURVEYED IN SQUARE MILES.			NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN PREPARED FOR ATTESTATION—		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH ATTESTATION HAS BEEN COMPLETED—	
					Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Total area surveyed.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

Settlements of Land Revenue in Govern

Major settlements.												
Orissa	Cuttack	...	All temporarily-settled estates and five permanently settled estates.	2,273'38	4,923	2,268'41	4'97	2,273'38	4,880	43	2,520	1,356
	Puri	...	All temporarily-settled estates.	1,089'04	2,098	1,089'04	Nil	1,089'04	2,098	Nil	1,957	23
Chittagong	Balasore	...	Ditto ditto	1,733'11	3,736	1,732'61	'50	1,733'11	3,734	2	1,088	1,962
	Chittagong	...	Chittagong district	1,905'59	1,036	1,847'06	57'93	1,905'59	1,633	3	1,033	8
Ohota Nagpur	Palamau	...	Government estates	203'15	397	131'67	161'48	293'15	158	239	33	364
Rajshahi	Darjeeling	...	Darjeeling Terai jotes and 30-year lease grants.	238	825	Nil	215'00	215'00	...	810	...	...
Minor settlements.												
Burdwan	Midnapore	...	Pataspur Estates	54'70	96	54'70	Nil	54'70	92	4	48	48
Rajshahi	Bogra	...	Jaipur estates	55'50	157	55'50	Nil	55'50	67	90	Nil	11
Dacca	Backergunge	...	Six estates	64'02	32	10'54	53'48	64'02	2	30	1	3
Patna	Gaya	...	23 Government estates	88'00	109	.....	88'00	88'00	...	109	...	...
	Shahabad	...	15 Government estates	18'75	20	9'35	9'40	18'75	14	6	8	12
Total Government and temporarily settled estates.				7,813'24	13,429	7,199'48	590'76	7,790'24	12,078	1,336	6,688	3,782

Survey and record of rights not connected with the settlement of

Major operations.												
Patna (North Bihar).	Muzaffarpur	...	Muzaffarpur district	3,070	4,600	1,508	1,082	2,590	2,417	1,642	1,032	1,361
	Champaran	...	Champaran do.	3,531	About 3,000	939'70	1,168	2,107'70	543	1,171	261	373
Chittagong...	Saran	...	Saran district	2,653	4,296	549	Nil	549	1,229	Nil	68	1,160
	Tippera	...	Chakla Roshnabad	555'56	1,510	555'56	Nil	555'56	1,510	Nil	9	327
Minor operations.												
Presidency	24 Parganas	...	Chaurasi	33	53	Nil	33	33	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Khulna	...	Tantibunia	20	8	Nil	20	20	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Dacca	Backergunge	...	Chiknakandi	5'45	7	Nil	5'45	5'45	Nil	7	Nil	Nil
	Chittagong...	Tippera	Palpara	3'19	11	3'19	Nil	3'19	11	Nil	Nil	11
Gangamandal			1'16	3	1'16	Nil	1'16	2	1	Nil	8	
Total Private estates				9,872'36	13,488	8,556'61	2,308'45	5,865'06	5,712	2,821	1,370	3,235

Survey and Record of

Burdwan	Burdwan	...	Burdwan Raj Khas mahals.	76'82	77	70'77	6'05	76'82	72	5	65	3
	Hooghly	...		13'47	27	9'49	3'98	13'47	20	7	15	9
Dacca	Bankura	...		39'01	72	39'01	Nil	39'01	72	Nil	37	23
	Backergunge	...	Dakhin Shahbazpur	146'58	47	146'58	Nil	146'58	47	Nil	47	...
Patna	Srirampur	...		9'13	9	8'80	'33	9'13	9	...	2	7
	Gaya and Patna	...	Tikari	475'06	639	334'53	68'00	400'53	458	109	...	441
Total Wards' estates				760'07	871	609'18	76'36	685'54	678	121	166	483

DIX I.

the Director of Land Records during the year ending 30th September 1895.

NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH THE DRAFT RECORD OF RIGHTS HAS BEEN PUBLISHED UNDER SECTION 105 (1) OF THE TENANCY ACT—		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH THE FINAL RECORD OF RIGHTS HAS BEEN PUBLISHED UNDER SECTION 105 (2) OF THE TENANCY ACT—		Estimated number of tenants in the villages in column 5.	Number of tenants whose rent has been recorded and status determined in khatahs finally published under section 105 (2) of the Tenancy Act or under the law which governs the settlement.	NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED.					COST DURING THE YEAR.		
Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.			Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Total.	Former rental of tenants included in column 21.	New rental settled for tenants included in column 21.	Survey exclusive of expenditure incurred by the Survey Department.	Settlement.	Total.
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

ment estates and Temporarily-settled Estates.

41	4	Nil	Nil	Not known.	Nil	5,320	8,630	13,950	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Not known.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	...	1,10,185	1,10,185
43	Nil	Nil	Nil	526,000	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	...	83,207	83,207
312	273	75	304	212,655	1,05,403	24,406	80,997	105,403	4,71,326	6,18,418	4,219	1,93,187	1,40,406
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	(a)	(a)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	...	15,841	15,841
...	...	...	...	13,133	13,133	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,632	2,632
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	14,056	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	58	8,751	8,809
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	9,796	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	...	6,606	6,606
Nil	4	Nil	3	7,206	Nil	Nil	936	936	14,156	20,224	...	12,971	12,971
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	8,000	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	226	1,125	1,351
396	281	75	307	988	...	...	90,563	...	...	...	4,503	3,77,505	3,82,008

(a) Noabad tenants only.

(b) Cost of supervision of Revenue Officers not yet separated from tikari accounts.

the Land Revenue in estates other than Wards' Estates.

1,007	1,265	Nil	768	1,000,000	66,759	2,986	3,241	6,227	52,979	58,531	...	128,342	1,28,342
260	251	5	252	653,644	47,855	17,105	17,896	35,001	253,833	282,064	...	57,670	57,670
68	265	Nil	57	600,000	24,190	426	19,783	20,209	230,707	260,774	...	36,460	36,460
Nil	5	Nil	Nil	236,275	Nil	Nil	132	132	1,368	1,662	...	33,268	33,268
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Not yet known.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	...	1,936	1,936
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	...	...	...
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1,080	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1,385	Nil	1,385
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	473	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	446	446
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	352	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	392	392
1,335	1,786	5	1,077	...	...	...	41,052	...	...	...	1,385	2,58,514	2,59,899

Rights in Wards Estates.

64	4	62	6	15,621	12,458	3,286	Nil	3,386	28,190	29,673	Nil	11,578	11,578
15	9	13	3	5,000	5,435	728	33	766	9,278	9,820	Nil	...	...
37	23	2	58	5,328	5,042	Nil	Nil	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	7,663	7,663
47	...	46	1	30,125	30,125	7,839	None	7,839	...	...	Nil	2,883	2,883
...	8	...	4	2,215	...	None	1,481	1,481	20,050	20,050	...	33,104	33,104
...	440	...	...	62,000	...	...	111	111	2,883	3,749	...	...	...
163	484	123	72	...	...	...	1,630	...	...	...	Nil	55,228	55,228

APPENDIX II.

No. 1245 dated Cuttack, the 22nd October 1895.

From—W. MAUDE, Esq., Settlement Officer, Cuttack and Puri.

To—The Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.

WITH reference to your circular No. 63S., dated the 26th August 1895, I have the honour to submit the following annual report for the settlement operations of Cuttack and Puri for the year ending 30th September 1895.

2. *Area under survey and settlement in Cuttack and Puri.*—The area in Cuttack and Puri, which has been cadastrally surveyed, and for which a record of rents and rights is being framed, is 3,362 square miles, viz., 2,273 square miles in Cuttack and 1,089 square miles in Puri. Of 2,273 square miles of Cuttack district, 174 square miles is permanently settled estates, and of 1,089 square miles of Puri district, 104 square miles belong to the Puri temple. The total area under settlement of revenue is therefore 3,084 square miles, viz., 2,099 square miles in Cuttack and 985 square miles in Puri. This includes revenue-free lands which lies scattered in the revenue-paying area.

3. *Survey and khamapuri.*—The survey and record-writing of the whole area of 3,352 square miles have been completed. The survey and record-writing of 4.97 square miles, comprised in 43 villages, were completed during the year under report, and the rest had been completed during previous years. During the year under report, 650 square miles comprised in 690 villages was traversed in the Cuttack district, and 525 square miles comprised in 145 villages and in the Chilka Lake was traversed in the Puri district. With a view to the completion of a 2 inch district map, 525 square miles was surveyed in Puri and 654 square miles was surveyed in Cuttack on 2 inch scale.

4. *Attestation.*—During the working season of the year under report, ten officers were employed on attestation work in Cuttack. Mr. A. C. Sen was employed on attestation work in Khurda from 19th January to 22nd February 1895. The attestation work done by each officer during the year under report is shown in the table below:—

NAME OF OFFICER.	Name of Circle.	Number of months employed.	ATTESTATION COMPLETED.		REMARKS.
			Villages.	Plots.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
<i>District Cuttack.</i>					
Babu Chandra Nath Ghose	Alti	8	95	2,09,903	(a) In the first month (November 1894). Babu A. C. Das was engaged in learning work in Babu A. K. Sen's camp. He did not show any work in November 1894.
" Akshoy Kumar Sen	Gandito	7	168	2,28,435	
" Ajoy Chandra Das	Anabartak	(a) 6	135	89,813	
" Jamini Mohan Das	Jajpur	(b) 8	140	1,35,859	(b) In June, nearly half of Babu J. M. Das' establishment was engaged in preparing statistical statements and only the other half was engaged on attestation work.
" Sashi Bhushan Dutt	Ahiyas	(c) 4	47	55,988	(c) Babu Sashi Bhushan Dutt joined on the 21st December, but being new to the system followed here, could not show any work in December or January. In December and January he was engaged in supervising preliminary attestation. Having joined late in the season, he was unable to procure the services of good muharrirs and therefore had to work under a disadvantage.
" Harish Chandra Rai	Balubisi	7	219	1,54,950	
" Amrita Lal Gupta	Tekan	6	159	1,32,568	
" Jogendra Narayan Mitra	Rakhrabad	(d) 5	120	94,622	(d) Besides attestation work, Babu J. M. Mitra had to discharge the duties of the Personal Assistant to the Settlement Officer.
Mr. H. A. Boyd	Olas	4	104	78,902	
Babu Jotendra Mohan Sinha	Sargara	6	160	1,03,196	
	Total	61	1,356	11,84,543	N.B.—The average outturn of each officer per month is therefore 19,418 plots.
<i>District Puri.</i>					
Mr. A. C. Sen	Ekhrajat	1	23	11,986	

The aggregate number of months during which all the officers were engaged on attestation in Cuttack is 61. The statement given above will show that the ten officers engaged on attestation work in Cuttack completed the final attestation of 11,84,543 plots. The average outturn per month per officer is therefore 19,418. In my letter No. 1598, dated 25th June 1894, I estimated that each officer should do 18,000 plots per month. In your letter No. 2818, dated 10th August 1894 to the address of the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, you estimated that 21,000 plots should be attested by each officer in a month. I directed my best endeavours to impress on all the Assistant Settlement Officers under me the importance of attaining this standard. Looking, however, to the facts stated in the remarks column of the statement given above, I hope the average outturn will be considered

satisfactory. A statement is attached hereto showing the progress made in attestation work in the Cuttack and Puri districts during the year under report and from the beginning.

5. *Progress made in settlement of fair rents.*—During the year under report only one officer, Mr. J. Taylor, was engaged in settlement of rents. He settled fair rents for 8,630 tenants during the year under report and for 5,320 tenants during the previous year. Therefore, altogether, he has settled the rents for 13,950 tenants. The former rental of these tenants was Rs. 36,219. The new rental settled is Rs. 44,834. Mr. Taylor's procedure for fixing fair rents was described in my annual report for the year ending 30th September 1894.

6. *Case work.*—During the year under report 21 boundary disputes were decided under the Survey Act by the Assistant Settlement Officers. Six cases were tried as civil suits, under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act, and 75 objections were heard under section 105. These cases do not call for any special remarks.

7. No record has yet been finally published in Cuttack and Puri districts. No progress has yet been made in assessment of land revenue.

8. *Work done during recess.*—During the recess of the year under report, Mr. J. Taylor, Babus Jamini Mohan Das, Chandra Nath Ghose, Harish Chandra Rai and Jogendra Narayan Mitra, Assistant Settlement Officers, prepared statistical statements of groups of attested villages in their circles and submitted rate reports, discussing the general principles on which assessment of rents should be made, and commented on the tabulated figures. Government orders are now awaited as to the system of assessment to be followed here and on the various points raised in the rate reports submitted. By the officers named above,

* To be filled up from the rate reports which have been submitted in original to the Director of Land Records and Agriculture Bengal.

figures for.....* square miles comprised in.....* villages were tabulated. The statements containing these figures have been submitted to you with the rate reports. So many questions of great importance have been discussed in the rate reports submitted by the five Assistant Settlement Officers, that it is not possible to deal with them even briefly here. I hope to do so hereafter.

9. As regards the financial results of the present settlement operations I think it is now too early to make any correct estimate. Some indications, however, of future increment of land revenue may be found in the rate reports recently submitted. From the figures tabulated during the recess, and submitted with the rate reports, it seems that an increment of at least 50 per cent. of the present revenue can be reasonably expected, without even touching the rents of the majority of the tenants who pay competition rents.

10. I was in charge of the settlement operations of Cuttack and Puri throughout the year, but I was appointed Collector of the district of Cuttack on the 1st of March, and since then, up to the end of the year under report, I had to do the work in addition to my own duties as Collector of the district of Cuttack.

11. The staff that I had under me during the year under report, the period for which each officer was employed, the circle held by each officer, distribution of work, and the number of days spent by each officer on tour are shown below:—

NAME OF OFFICER.	Circle.	Work engaged on.	Period of employment.	Days on tour.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Babu Chandra Nath Ghose ...	Alti ...	Attestation ...	From 26th October 1894 to end of June 1895.	235	
„ Akshoy Kumar Sen ...	Gandito ...	Ditto ...	From 20th October 1894 to 3rd June 1895.	197	Went on three months privilege leave, from 4th June to 4th September 1895.
„ Ajoy Chandra Das ...	Anabartak ...	Ditto ...	From 20th October 1894 to 2nd May 1895.	166	
„ Jamini Mohan Das ...	Jaipur ...	Ditto ...	From 27th October 1894 to end of June 1895.	234	
„ Sashi Bhusan Dutt ...	Ahiyas ...	Ditto ...	From 21st December 1894 to 10th May 1895.	126	
„ Harish Chandra Rai ...	Balubisi ...	Ditto ...	From 29th October 1894 to 23rd May 1895.	193	Privilege leave for 21 days, from 24th May 1895 to
„ Amrita Lal Gupta ...	Tekan ...	Ditto ...	From 31st October 1894 to 13th May 1895.	172	
„ Jogendra Narayan Mitra	Bakhrabad ...	Ditto(a) ...	From 1st December 1894 to end of April 1895.	118	(a) Besides this, this officer had to discharge the duties of Personal Assistant to Settlement Officer.
Mr. H. A. Boyd ...	O'as ...	Ditto ...	From 19th November 1894 to 12th April 1895.	125	
Babu Jotendra Mohan Sinha ...	Sargara ...	Ditto ...	From 29th October 1894 to 10th May 1895.	201	
Mr. A. C. Sen ...	Ekhrajat ...	Ditto ...	From 19th January 1895 to 22nd February 1895.	30	
„ James Taylor ...	Bakhrabad assessment.	Assessment ...	Throughout the year under report	159	
Babu Jamini Mohan Das ...	Jaipur ...	Engaged in tabulating figures for the rate report and writing the rate report.	From July to end of the year under report.	At head-quarters.	
„ Chandra Nath Ghose ...	Alti ...		From July to 25th September 1895.	Do.	
„ Harish Chandra Rai ...	Balubisi ...		From 14th June to end of the year	Do.	
„ Jogendra Narayan Mitra	Bakhrabad ...		From May 1895 to end of the year	Do.	
„ Akshoy Kumar Sen ...	Kothdesh ...		From 4th September 1895 to end of the year under report.	Do.	

12. The expenditure incurred during the year under report was Rs. 1,10,185, making the total expenditure from the beginning of the operation up to the end of the year Rs. 7,18,505. The expenditure shown as incurred up to the end of the previous year (30th September 1894) included the amount expended on account of the operations of the Balasore

district. The estimated amount for the year (from 1st October 1894 to 30th September 1895) was Rs. 1,32,312 ; there was therefore a saving of Rs. 22,127. The expenditure incurred during the year under report by the Survey Department was Rs. 49,793, making the total expenditure incurred by the Survey Department, from the beginning, up to the end of the year, to be Rs. 9,36,433 + Rs. 49,793 = Rs. 9,86,226.

13. The statements annexed hereto are enumerated below :—

- I.—Annual Return of Khanapuri.
- II.— Ditto of boundary disputes.
- III.— Ditto of attestation work.
- IV.— Ditto of cases under section 104, Bengal Tenancy Act.
- V.— Ditto of objections under sections 105 and 106, Bengal Tenancy Act.
- VI.—Financial statement.
- VII.—Statement of classification of tenants.
- VIII.—Statement showing, pargana by pargana, the number of villages, their area and plots finally attested during the season 1894-95 in each month.
- IX.—Statement showing attestation work done from the beginning up to end of the year under report.
- X.—Statement showing progress in the settlement of Cuttack and Puri districts for the year ending 30th September 1895.
- XI.—Statement showing progress made in the Bakhrabad assessment circle in charge of Mr. James Taylor.

I.—Settlement Officer's Return of Khanapuri Work.

Name of Revenue Officer employed.	Name of Circle.	Number of villages in the Circle.	Area of the Circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH KHANAPURI WORK WAS COMPLETED.				Number of villages of which Khanapuri is going on, but is incomplete.	Number of villages inspected by Revenue Officer during the month.	Number of amins inspected by Revenue Officer during the month.	Number of plots of which the Kharsa entries were tested during the month.	REMARKS.
				Up to the end of the previous year.		During the year.						
				Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
R. C. Ewing, Esq., Assistant Superintendent of Survey and Assistant Settlement Officer.	Cuttack District.	...	...	4,880	2,268.41	43	4.97	...	...	...	...	

II.—Settlement Officer's Annual Return of boundary disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act for the year ending 30th September 1895.

Name of Officer.	Name of Circie.	NUMBER INSTITUTED—			NUMBER DISPOSED OF—			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS DURING THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.				REMARKS.	
		During the previ- ous year, includ- ing number pend- ing at the close of the last year.	During the year, including num- ber pending at the close of the last year.	Total.	During the pre- vious year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted includ- ing appeals pend- ing from previ- ous year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of Revenue Officer had been—			
											Up- held.	Modi- fied.		Re- versed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Babu Chandra Nath Ghose	Alti	12	2	14	10	2	12	Nil	1	...	...	...	...	
„ Akhoy Kumar Sen	Gandito	14	...	14	4	...	4	Nil	1	1	...	...	...	
„ Harish Chandra Rai and	Balubisi (old)	25	...	25	21	...	21	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	
„ Srigopal Bhattacharji.														
„ Nisi Kanta Chatterji and	Bakhrabad (old)	71	...	71	38	...	(a) 38	6	...	...	...	...	...	
„ Amrita Lal Gupta.														
„ Jogendra Narayan Mitra ...	Bakhrabad	Nil	6	6	...	6	6	N 1	...	...	...	...	...	
„ Amrita Lal Gupta	Tekan	...	5	5	...	5	5	Nil	1	1	...	...	1	...
Mr. A. C. Sen and Babu Jotendra	Sargara (old)	43	...	43	37	...	(a) 37	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	
Mohan Sinha.														
Babu Jotindra Mohan Sinha ...	Sargara	...	9	9	...	8	8	1	1	...	...	...	...	
„ Sashi Bhusan Dutt	Ahiyas	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	
Mr. R. Nathan	Cuttack town	4	...	4	4	...	4	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	
Mr. James Taylor	Darpan	5	...	5	4	...	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	
Total ... ..	.....	174	23	197	118	21	139	9	4	2	1	1	...	

CUTTACK AND PURI DISTRICTS.

III.—Settlement Officer's Annual Return of attestation work, including final publication of records, for the year ending 30th September 1895.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of Circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	Number of villages of which records have been received from the Survey Office.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE PREVIOUS YEAR.					ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THIS YEAR.					NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED—			REMARKS.	
					Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	During the previous year.	During the year.	During the previous year.	During the year.			
1	2	8	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
Cuttack District.																			
Babu Chandranath Ghose	Alt	428	273.96	428	38	31.07	13,691	60,220	96	135.73	40,529	2,00,203						(a) In the return for the year ending 31st March 1896, the total number of villages in the Cuttack district was shown to be 4,883. The difference is due to the addition of 43 villages of Aul, Bishampur, and Haripur, the survey and record-writing of which were done during the year under report.	
" Akshoy Kumar Sen	Gandito	1,165	483.98	1,165	51	20.74	7,705	37,147	168	66.72	31,933	1,28,435						(b) In the return for the year ending 31st March 1896, the area of the Cuttack district was shown to be 2,284.73 square miles. The difference is due to the increase of 2.45 square miles in the Alt circle, the decrease of 20.07 square miles in the Balubisi and Tekan circles, and the addition of 4.97 square miles of Aul, Bishampur, and Haripur surveyed during the year under report.	
" Ajoy Chandra Das	Anabortak	883	143.02	883	45	23.57	12,584	55,024	149	70.53	36,638	1,35,859						(c) The records of these villages were published by Mr. J. Taylor, the only officer who was engaged in the work of settlement of rents.	
" Sasi Bhushan Datta	Jajpur	88	68.00	88	134	66.22	23,156	97,038	219	72.67	1,54,959	34,256							
" Harish Chunder Rai	Balubisi	641	235.39	641	134	66.22	23,156	97,038	219	72.67	1,54,959	34,256							
" Amrita Lal Gupta	Tekan	536	245.69	536	44	42.50	7,255	10,835	120	76.88	31,622	1,32,868		(c) 41	...	...			
" Jogendra Narayan	Bakhrabad	793	453.97	793	44	42.50	7,255	10,835	120	87.66	21,803	94,622			...	...			
" Nitra	"	13	8.73	13	1	1.14	677	2,096	...	...	...	...							
" Babu Jogendra Narayan	Cuttack Town	222	51.50	222	13	3.59	10,345	35,549	...	...	...	...							
" Mr. J. Taylor	"	228	92.00	228	23	12.25	2,894	11,263	104	31.28	17,269	78,902							
" Oms	"	228	92.00	228	23	12.25	2,894	11,263	104	31.28	17,269	78,902							
" Mohun Sinha.	Surgara	526	223.64	526	216	104.31	25,392	1,10,887	100	66.28	22,461	1,09,196			...	...			
Total		(a) 4,923	(b) 2,273.98	4,923	564	308.39	1,03,279	4,36,138	1,356	681.38	2,76,138	11,84,645	41	4	...	...			
Puri District.																			
Mr. Ambica Charan Sen	Ekrajat	141	104.00	141	...	...	...	...	23	13.05	3,458	11,986	...	...	...	...			
Babu Mahendranath Seal	Puri Attestation	63	52.08	63	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
Total		204	156.08	204	1	2.12	530	3,038	23	13.05	3,458	11,986	...	...	...	...			

IV.—Settlement Officer's annual Return of Cases under Section 104 of the Tenancy Act for Settlement of Fair Rents for the year ending 30th September 1895.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Area of circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH CASES HAVE BEEN INSTI- TUTED—			NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH CASES HAVE BEEN DISPOSED OF—			NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED—			Former rental of tenants included in column 12.		New rental settled for tenants in column 12.		NUMBER OF DECISIONS APPEARED AGAINST TO SPECIAL JUDGE—			NUMBER OF APPEALS DECIDED—			NUMBER OF DECISIONS OF REVENUE OFFICER AS IN COLUMN 20—			REMARKS.
			During the year.	Total.	During previous year.	During the year.	Total.	During previous year.	During the year.	Total.	During previous year.	During the year.	During previous year.	During the year.	During previous year.	During the year.	Total.	During previous year.	During the year.	Total.	Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
James Taylor, Esq.	Bakrabad assess- ment circle.	...	33	110	142	32	110	142	5,320	8,630	13,950	Rs. A. P. 36,219 1 3½	Rs. A. P. 44,884 9 9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	(State here the grounds on which fair-rent decisions are reversed, or in- pugnated in appeal and summarise orders of courts of appeal.)	

V.—Settlement Officer's annual Return of Objections under Section 105 and Disputes under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act for the year ending 30th September 1895.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Nature of case.	NUMBER INSTITUTED—			NUMBER DISPOSED OF—			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS. (State grounds of which decisions have been appealed against and summarise orders of courts of appeal.)
		During the previous month, including cases pending on 30th September of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending on 30th September of preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
											Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	(1) Objections heard and considered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act. (2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	78 5	82 2	160 7	78 1	75 6	153 (a)7	7 ...	... 1	... 1	... ...	... ...	... 1	Disposed of by Mr. J. Taylor. (a) Of these, four cases have been disposed of by the Settlement officer and the remaining three cases by Mr. J. Taylor.

VI.—Settlement Officer's Financial Statement for the year ending 30th September 1895.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment (against each sub-head).	Expenditure for the previous year (against each sub-head).	Expenditure during the year under report (against each sub-head).	Balance remaining (against each sub-head).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
(1) Settlement Officer—					
a. Salary and allowances ... ..	.....	21,029 15 5	11,391 6 0		
b. Establishment ... ..	.....	12,007 2 8	7,793 3 9		
c. Contingencies ... ..	.....	8,816 2 7	2,764 9 9		
<i>Employed on Khanapuri.</i>					
(2) Assistant Settlement Officers—					
a. Salaries and allowances ... ..	.....	.....	.....		
b. Establishment ... ..	.....	.....	.....		
c. Contingencies ... ..	.....	.....	.....		
<i>Employed on Attestation.</i>					
(3) Assistant Settlement Officers—					
a. Salaries and allowances ... ..	.....	61,272 12 6	26,857 11 2		
b. Establishment ... ..	.....	60,421 14 5	31,984 4 5		
c. Contingencies ... ..	.....	6,598 4 3	2,840 13 3		
<i>Employed on Assessment.</i>					
(4) Assistant Settlement Officers—					
a. Salaries and allowances ... ..	.....	4,299 5 8	8,430 10 0		
b. Establishment ... ..	.....	8,177 5 5	10,583 1 11		
c. Contingencies ... ..	.....	324 7 4	452 12 9		
<i>Employed on other stages of work (to be detailed in the statement).</i>					
(5) Assistant Settlement Officers—					
a. Salaries and allowances ... ..	.....	.....	.....		
b. Establishment ... ..	.....	.....	.....		
c. Contingencies ... ..	.....	.....	.....		
Job work ... ..	.....	.....	4,086 12 4		
		1,72,003 0 3	1,10,185 5 4		

VII.—SUDDER.

A.—Statement of tenancies arranged by classes showing total areas and aggregate rents paid,
number of villages 1356.

Serial number.	NATURE OF HOLDING.	Number of holdings.	Total area of each class of holding.	Average area per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per acre.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	(a) Government (nij-dakhal) ...	529	4,566'471	8'63	.....	.....	
	(b) Raiyats of Government ...	461	204'544	0'44	536 12 4	2 10 0	
	(c) Non-occupancy raiyats of Government.	276	123'575	0'44	333 2 3½	3 2 11	
2	(a) Lakhira bahaldar (revenue-free proprietors)	132,813	42,277'714	1'28	.....	.....	
	(b) Sarbarahkar under bahaldar ...	1	3'376	3'37-6	.....	.....	
	(c) Tenure-holders under bahaldar	13	22'623	1'74	28 2 10	1 3 11	
	(d) Istamurari pattadars under bahaldar.	91	169'639	1'86	171 15 1	1 0 2	
	(e) Settled and occupancy raiyats under bahaldar.	19,973	14,476'627	0'72	37,887 15 7½	2 9 10	
	(f) Non-occupancy raiyats of bahaldar.	375	209'944	0'56	444 0 2½	2 1 10	
3	Uncultivated (not included in any holding).	...	108,042'645	...	.....	.....	
4	Zamindar's nij-jote ...	1,018	3,945'299	3'87	.....	.....	
5	Proprietary tenure-holder's nij-jote	167	626'745	3'75	.....	.....	
6	Raiyats holding zamindar's ditto	1,018	645'65	0'63	1,529 9 6½	2 5 10	
7	Ditto proprietary tenure-holders nij-jote.	100	49'563	0'495	137 3 4	2 12 3	
8	Zamindar's nij-chas ...	5,722	19,367'80	3'38	.....	.....	
9	Proprietary tenure holder's nij-chas	739	2,935'933	3'97	.....	.....	
10	Kharida jamabandidar tenure-holders...	6,508	9,375'314	1'44	9,274 4 2½	0 15 9	
11	Baziatfidar tenure-holders...	8,074	13,563'274	1'67	5,167 4 9½	0 6 0	
12	Ditto settled raiyats ...	23,983	17,998'699	0'75	8,184 3 5½	0 7 3	
13	Kamildar tenure-holders ...	1,213	2,158'828	1'779	1,084 3 9½	0 8 0	
14	Ditto settled raiyats ...	4,982	3,465'42	0'69	2,635 7 6½	0 12 2	
15	Ordinary tenure-holders ...	122	759'976	3'95	767 9 2½	1 0 2	
16	(a) Thani settled raiyats (under zamindars).	4,150	7,496'973	1'80	19,310 7 5½	2 9 2	
	(b) Thani settled raiyats (under proprietary tenure-holders).	415	804'412	1'94	2,015 14 3	2 8 1	
17	(a) Thani and pahi mixed (under zamindar).	7,176	32,887'081	4'58	80,351 15 2½	2 7 1	
	(b) Thani and pahi mixed (under proprietary tenure-holders).	275	1,167'308	4'24	3,061 14 0½	2 9 11	
18	(a) Settled and occupancy pahi raiyat (under zamindar).	99,403	130,381'937	1'31	3,31,873 7 0	2 8 8	
	(b) Settled and occupancy pahi raiyat (under proprietary tenure-holder).	8,232	10,426'07	1'26	31,402 14 4½	3 0 2	
	(c) Settled and occupancy pahi raiyat (under kharida zamabandidar).	3,642	2,141'062	0'58	6,408 14 1½	2 15 10	
	(d) Settled and occupancy pahi raiyat (under baziatfidar tenure-holder).	10,187	5,841'661	0'57	13,951 13 1	2 6 2	
	(e) Settled and occupancy pahi raiyat (under kamildar tenure-holder).	1,303	770'187	0'59	1,766 6 5½	2 4 8	
	(f) Settled and occupancy pahi raiyat (under ordinary tenure-holder).	503	523'289	1'04	1,254 1 1½	2 6 2	
19	(a) Non-occupancy raiyats (under zamindar, but not holding nij-jote lands).	3,863	3,413'216	0'88	7,377 1 3½	2 2 6	
	(b) Non-occupancy raiyats (under proprietary tenure-holder, but not holding nij-jote land).	444	318'493	0'71	570 4 5½	4 13 0	
	(c) Non-occupancy raiyats (under kharida jamabandidar).	329	160'679	0'49	361 5 7	2 3 11	
	(d) Non-occupancy raiyats (under baziatfidar tenure-holder).	233	125'002	0'54	238 6 4½	1 14 9	
	(e) Non-occupancy raiyats (under kamildar tenure-holders).	41	19'834	0'48	32 9 10½	1 10 4	
	(f) Non-occupancy raiyats (under ordinary tenure-holders).	6	4'546	0'75	8 13 3	1 15 1	
20	(a) Chandnadar (under zamindar)...	3,859	1,997'406	0'51	6,764 2 7½	3 6 2	
	(b) Ditto (under proprietary tenure-holders).	294	272'576	0'93	937 5 5½	3 7 0	
	(c) Chandadar (under baziatfidar tenure-holders).	19	1'165	0'06	24 2 0	20 12 9	
21	(a) Paik and khandait jagir ...	71	120'303	1'69	.....	.....	
	(b) Chaukidar ditto ...	1,989	3,010'81	1'51	.....	.....	
	(c) Patwari ditto ...	227	681'37	3'00	.....	.....	
	(d) Barbers, washermen, &c., ...	3,320	1,813'332	0'55	.....	.....	
22	(a) Rent free-holders (created since last settlement by zamindars).	4,369	2,924'466	0'68	.....	.....	
	(b) Rent free-holder (created by proprietary tenure-holders).	247	91'012	0'37	.....	.....	
	(c) Rent free-holder (created by other tenure-holders).	1	0'27	0'27	.....	.....	
23	(a) Produce rent-paying tenants (under zamindar).	6,224	5,099'753	0'82	.....	.....	
	(b) Produce rent-paying tenants (under proprietary tenure-holders).	136	48'743	0'36	.....	.....	
	(c) Produce rent-paying tenants (under other tenure-holders).	17,813	10,226'428	0'57	.....	.....	
	Total ...	2,96,989	4,32,312'553	...	.....	.....	
24	Under-raiyats ...	11,976	5,874'728	0'49	15,576 4 6½	2 10 5	
	GRAND TOTAL ...	2,98,965	.....	...	.....	.....	

This is the total area of the villages comprised in this statement. This figure is obtained by adding the areas entered against columns 1 (a to c), 2 (a) 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 (a), 16 (b), 17 (a), 17 (b), 18 (a), 18 (b), 19 (a), 19 (b), 20 (a), 20 (b), 21 (a), 21 (b), 21 (c), 21 (d), 22 (a), 22 (b), 23 (a) and 23 (b).

VIII.—Statement showing, pargana by pargana, the number of villages finally attested during 1894-95 in each month.

MONTH.	Name of Circle.	Name of pargana.	Number of villages.	Number of plots.	Area.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
November 1894	Gandito ...	Abortak ...	15	8,617	4.91	
		Hariharpur ...	10	5,807	4.82	
	Alti ...	Hatimunda ...	4	4,259	2.78	
		Barah ...	8	10,175	9.91	
	Jajpur ...	Jajpur ...	1	1,933	1.32	
		Tisania ...	5	6,662	3.77	
	Balubisi ...	Sungra ...	1	621	.32	
		Panida ...	3	6,598	2.44	
	Sargara ...	Swang ...	6	2,843	1.44	
		Madhupur ...	26	15,303	7.57	
	Tekan ...	Nabakhand ...	10	14,862	5.97	
		Total ...	89	77,680	45.25	
December 1894	Gandito ...	Abortak ...	20	8,314	5.26	
		Anabortak ...	4	2,199	1.84	
		Jhankar ...	8	10,189	4.69	
	Alti ...	Alti ...	3	4,503	1.99	
		Matkatnagar ...	7	16,163	5.80	
		Hatimunda ...	1	4,685	2.59	
	Jajpur ...	Tisania ...	6	12,960	6.11	
		Dolegram ...	5	8,319	5.13	
		Panida ...	2	2,907	1.47	
	Balubisi ...	Swang ...	31	19,912	9.95	
		Saraswati ...	1	1,522	.59	
		Madhupur ...	19	6,531	4.17	
	Sargara ...	Sargara ...	13	6,582	4.31	
		Nabakhand ...	5	23,915	10.65	
	Tekan ...	Olas ...	20	10,336	4.05	
		Madupur ...	4	2,062	.86	
	Anabortak ...	Balpara ...	12	9,308	5.39	
		Abortak ...	5	2,197	1.83	
	Bakhrabad ...	Teran ...	4	4,505	2.33	
		Dalijora ...	20	11,238	31.05	
		Bakhrabad ...	3	4,502	10.00	
		Total ...	193	172,749	120.10	
January 1895	Alti ...	Kolamatia ...	6	12,622	6.93	
		Baragan ...	8	14,196	7.96	
		Jajpur ...	1	2,571	1.22	
	Jajpur ...	Tisania ...	5	9,376	3.50	
		Dolegram ...	3	7,183	4.65	
		Matkatabad ...	1	169	.66	
	Balubisi ...	Panida ...	1	2,043	.84	
		Swang ...	11	7,755	4.60	
		Kusmandal ...	21	15,383	5.99	
	Sargara ...	Madhupur ...	...	...	...	
		Sargara ...	28	20,192	13.60	
		Nabakhand ...	1	3,722	2.19	
	Tekan ...	Pania ...	25	16,751	10.02	
		Olas ...	24	20,576	8.02	
	Olas ...	Teran ...	24	18,621	9.35	
		Barpalla ...	1	1,773	1.09	
		Anabortak ...	1	515	.37	
	Bakhrabad ...	Dalijora ...	1	1,029	3.13	
		Kernalkhand ...	6	5,824	3.54	
		Kanchikhand ...	3	2,028	1.25	
		Kokuakhand ...	7	7,379	3.72	
		Tagrankhand ...	5	2,144	4.25	
	Gandito ...	Jhankar ...	3	2,368	.96	
		Teran ...	27	18,226	8.87	
		Total ...	213	192,446	106.71	

VIII.—Statement showing, pargana by pargana, the number of villages finally attested during 1894-95 in each month—continued.

MONTH.	Name of Circle.	Name of pargana.	Number of village.	Number of plots.	Area.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
February 1895	Alti	Kalamatia	1	3,080	1·76	
		Diha Arakhpur	9	17,210	11·24	
		Bargan	4	5,867	3·77	
		Hatimunda	1	554	·46	
		Barha	2	4,540	7·23	
	Jajpur	Tisania	6	2,706	1·38	
		Dolegram	20	17,344	13·07	
	Balubisi	Kusmandal	12	5,986	2·82	
		Suknai	34	20,166	9·43	
	Sargara	Sargara	35	20,910	16·35	
	Tekan	Pania	2	693	·21	
		Tekan	19	23,331	14·92	
	Olas	Olas	28	19,043	6·46	
		Barnan	8	6,028	2·36	
	Anabortak	Teran	29	20,091	10·71	
	Ahyas	Ahyas	20	14,286	6·42	
		Asureswar	27	15,813	7·59	
	Bakhrabad	Kernalkhand	1	2,650	1·12	
		Kanchikhand	1	988	1·23	
		Toppankhand	2	1,066	2·23	
	Gandito	Dalijora	1	1,079	1·00	
		Teran	19	12,808	6·77	
		Jhunkur	5	7,701	3·56	
	Total		286	2,23,840	132·09	
March 1895	Alti	Diha Arakhpur	1	7,974	3·99	
		Kalamatia	2	17,057	14·42	
		Hatimunda	2	5,538	4·42	
		Kania	1	975	·95	
	Jajpur	Dolegram	8	15,043	9·12	
		Sahebnagar	1	660	·39	
	Balubisi	Swang	3	1,192	·69	
		Suknai	30	21,932	9·94	
		Balubisi	1	1,175	·54	
	Sargara	Sargara	20	20,178	12·00	
	Tekan	Tekan	50	20,296	14·88	
		Olas	1	6,405	3·14	
		Barnan	19	14,462	6·38	
	Anabortak	Teran	7	5,149	2·74	
		Benahar	22	10,103	5·64	
	Bakhrabad	Asureswar	26	20,087	8·96	
	Ahyas	Ahyas	18	20,340	9·66	
		Jhankar	5	2,440	1·25	
	Gandito	Apila	10	10,651	5·35	
		Khandi	3	1,471	·58	
		Teran	9	5,420	2·74	
	Total		23	2,09,038	117·78	
April 1895	Alti	Alti	8	27,887	16·09	
		Matkatnagar	1	1,767	·80	
		Kubunda Jaipur	1	497	·20	
		Diha Arakapur	1	448	·15	
	Jajpur	Jajpur	11	10,668	4·70	
		Dolegram	5	10,427	5·26	
		Sahebnagar	3	1,072	·31	
	Balubisi	Swang	4	3,681	1·51	
		Suknai	18	14,085	7·03	
		Balubisi	12	7,478	3·93	
	Sargara	Sargara	19	13,500	8·28	
	Tekan	Tekan	26	16,639	9·22	
		Utikan	7	6,775	5·12	
		Killa Chedra	14	5,984	3·73	
	Anabortak	Benohar	25	14,004	7·69	
	Bakhrabad	Kurnia	5	3,047	·95	
		Asureswar	17	18,795	8·59	
		Ahyas	1	5,708	3·00	
	Ahyas	Katia	6	14,343	6·00	
	Gandito	Bantara	...	...	...	
		Jajpur	2	1,311	·45	
		Benahar	25	19,314	9·34	
		Kurnia	1	594	·34	
	Total		212	1,98,024	192·69	

VIII.—Statement showing, pargana by pargana, the number of villages finally attested during 1894-95 in each month—concluded.

MONTH.	Name of Circle.	Name of pargana.	Number of villages.	Number of plots.	Area.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
May 1895	Alti	Alti ...	5	19,196	8.10	
		Matkatnagar ...	2	1,138	.99	
		Kubunda Jaipur ...	2	4,959	1.64	
		Diha Arakapur ...	1	2,638	1.07	
		Killa Kamia ...	1	1,806	1.07	
	Jajpur	Jajpur ...	17	15,461	5.15	
		Dolegram ...	1	2,325	.67	
		Benahar ...	1	5,970	2.63	
	Gandito	Gandito ...	3	3,346	2.81	
	Balubisi	Do. ...	28	19,680	9.09	
Total			61	79,517	33.73	
June 1895	Alti	Alti ...	1	810	2.47	
		Hatimunda ...	1	142	.08	
		Killa Kamia ...	9	15,845	14.49	
		Kismat Kamia ...	2	3,474	1.84	
	Jajpur	Jajpur ...	50	10,980	4.12	
		Total	63	31,251	23.03	

IX.—Statement showing the progress made in attestation work in the Cuttack and Puri Districts from the beginning, up to the end of the year ending 30th September 1895.

Serial number.	NAME OF OFFICER	Name of Circle.	WORK TO BE DONE.			WORK DONE UP TO END OF SEPTEMBER 1894.			WORK DONE DURING SEASON 1894-95.			TOTAL WORK DONE UP TO END OF SEPTEMBER 1895.			BALANCE.			REMARKS.
			Village.	Plot.	Area.	Village.	Plot.	Area.	Village.	Plot.	Area.	Village.	Plot.	Area.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Cuttack District.																		
1	Babu Chandra Nath Ghose	Alki	493	476,139	273.36	331	263,682	135.75	95	2,09,903	135.73	426	473,586	272.48	2	2,014	88	(a) In the return for the year ending 30th September 1894, 2,673 villages were shown to have been finally attested up to the end of the year. The discrepancy with the figure shown in this return is due to the following reasons:—
2	" Akshoy Kumar Sen	Gandito	1,165	1,005,759	483.98	737	615,775	218.15	168	1,28,433	66.72	1,040	834,023	395.97	125	171,733	88.01	(1) One hundred and fifty-one villages of pargana Asureswar, which were shown to have been finally attested, have been excluded, as these villages are being re-attested; (2) one attested village has been transferred from the Jajpur to the West Bhadrak Circle; and (3) two portions of a village which were counted as separate villages have been shown as one village.
3	" Ajoy Chandra Das	Anaborkak	333	303,143	143.02	156	117,022	60.09	135	1,35,859	70.53	305	232,881	120.62	78	66,262	22.40	
4	" Jamini Mohun Das	Jajpur	88	120,010	63.00	135	35,902	21.98	47	1,55,859	25.53	83	94,890	50.51	5	25,720	17.49	
5	" Susi Bhusan Dutta	Abiyas	541	435,546	235.39	141	111,539	61.24	219	1,54,959	25.53	360	264,488	133.91	181	163,393	101.43	
6	" Harish Chandra Rai	Pekan	536	414,245	245.09	200	161,727	75.59	139	1,32,808	76.88	339	294,565	132.47	177	139,650	58.22	
7	" Anurita Lal Gupta	Bakhrabad	533	644,906	453.07	553	444,648	313.91	120	94,622	67.66	673	531,270	401.57	120	105,636	51.50	
8	" Jogendra Narayan Mitra	Dus	238	265,550	92.00	49	54,716	23.26	104	78,972	31.28	153	135,613	53.54	75	71,932	38.46	
9	" Mr. H. A. Boyd	Sargara	526	319,351	223.04	262	108,623	105.16	160	1,03,196	66.28	412	211,824	171.44	114	107,567	52.20	
10	" Babu Jotendra Mohun Singh	Darpan	222	71,942	61.50	52	20,950	16.44	...	...	...	52	20,950	16.44	170	60,492	35.06	
11	" Mr. James Taylor	Cuttack Town	13	37,645	3.73	13	37,645	3.73	...	...	...	13	37,645	3.73	...	...	...	
12	" R. Nathan	Total	4,923	4,041,238	2,273.38	(a) 2,520	1,975,224	1,097.30	1,356	1,134,545	691.38	3,876	3,159,769	1,772.68	1,047	881,467	500.70	
13	Babu Jogendra Narayan Mitra																	
Puri District.																		
	Mr. Ambica Charan Sen	Ekrajat	141	94,912	104.00	23	11,986	985.00	23	11,986	13.05	23	11,986	13.05	118	82,826	90.95	
		Puri	1,957	1,472,949	985.00	1,957	1,472,949	985.00	...	...	...	1,957	1,472,949	985.00	...	...	...	
		Total	2,098	1,567,761	1,089.00	1,957	1,472,949	985.00	23	11,986	13.05	1,980	1,484,935	998.05	118	82,826	90.95	

X.—Statement showing progress made in the settlement of Cuttack and Puri Districts during the year ending the 30th September 1895.

DIVISION.	District.	Name of estate or tract under settlement.	Estimated area in square miles under settlement of revenue or rents.	Total number of villages.	AREA CADASTRALLY SURVEYED IN SQUARE MILES.			NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN PREPARED FOR ATTESTATION.		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH THE DRAFT RECORD OF RIGHTS HAS BEEN PUBLISHED UNDER SECTION 105(1) OF THE TENANCY ACT.		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH THE FINAL RECORD OF RIGHTS HAS BEEN PUBLISHED UNDER SECTION 105(2) OF BENGAL TENANCY ACT.		Estimated number of tenants in the villages in column 5.	Number of tenants whose rent has been recorded and status determined in Khattians finally published under section 105 (2) Bengal Tenancy Act, or under the law which governs the settlement.	NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED.						Total.	Settlement.	Survey.	25	26	Total.	Cost DURING THE YEAR.	
					Up to end of previous year.	During the year.	Total area surveyed.	Up to end of preceding year.	During the year.	Up to end of preceding year.	During the year.	Up to end of preceding year.	During the year.			Up to end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.	Former rental of tenants included in column 21.	New rental settled for tenants in column 21.									
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26			
Cuttack and Puri.	Cuttack ...	All temporarily and permanently settled estates	2,275-38	4,929	2,268-41	...	2,275-38	4,890	43	(a) 2,520	1,356	41	4	...	...	...	Not known.	...	5,320	8,630	13,950	Rs. 36,219 1 3 1/2	Rs. 44,894 9 9	Rs. 49,793 0 0	Rs. 1,10,185 5 4	Rs. 1,59,978 5 4			
	Puri ...	...	1,039-04	2,098	1,039-04	...	1,039-04	2,098	...	1937	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			

(a) See remarks in statement IX.

XI.—Statement showing progress made in the Bakrabad Assessment Circle in charge of Mr. James Taylor.

1	Rate Maps Completed—			Records which have been copied, corrected, and arranged—			Class of soil entered in Khalsa—			Assessment sheet prepared—			Fair rent proposed—		
	During the previous year.	Total.	During the year.	During the previous year.	Total.	During the year.	During the previous year.	Total.	During the year.	During the previous year.	Total.	During the year.	During the previous year.	Total.	During the year.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Number of villages	...	29	29	44	133	177	37	82	69	32	142	174	32	142	174
Khalsa number	...	19,605	19,605	42,779	61,603	1,05,383	28,672	28,211	56,883	21,407	70,762	92,169	5,320	8,630	13,950
Number of raiyats	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

JOGENDRA NARAYAN MITRA,
For Settlement Officer, Cuttack and Puri.



APPENDIX III.

No. 1484, dated Balasore, the 10th October 1895.

From—The Settlement Officer, Balasore,

To—The Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.

With reference to your Circular No. 638., dated 26th August 1895, I have the honour to submit herewith the Annual Report of the Balasore settlement for the year ending 30th September 1895.

2. *Notification and orders sanctioning the operations.*—I have no information on the subject earlier than 14th October 1894, but would ask you to refer to paragraph 2 of the Settlement Officer, Orissa Division's No. 1874, dated 29th October 1894.

By Notification No. 770 of 14th October 1894, the settlement of the district of Balasore was made a separate charge, and by Notification No. 771 of 14th October 1894, I was appointed Settlement Officer. An important notification is No. 5319L.R. of 3rd December 1894, in accordance with which a 2-inch survey in permanently-settled parganas has been ordered. By oversight pargana Fatiabad was omitted from the notification, and the 2-inch survey of that pargana was notified in No. 2755L.R. of 4th June 1895.

3. *Law under which the settlement is being conducted.*—A change of great importance was made by the rules framed under section 189 of the Tenancy Act, and published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of 7th November 1894 in Notification No. 4867L.R. of 1st November 1894.

4. *Area under survey and settlement in Balasore.*—The temporarily-settled area of the district is 1,733.11 square miles.

The permanently-settled area in the north of the district is above 220 square miles, while Kanika in the south-east is about 170 square miles.

5. *Survey and Khanapuri.*—The survey and record-writing was completed in the temporarily-settled area in May 1894. A 2-inch survey was taken up in the permanently-settled parganas, and completed between January and June 1895. The settlement of Kanika is a separate charge, and I have no information on the subject.

6. *Attestation.*—Statement No. II shows the progress of attestation during the past year. Attestation began in eight camps in November 1894. On 18th November, Babu Chhakulal Sarkar died. His camp was carried on by a new officer, Babu Jogeswar Biswas. To the middle of January 1895, eight camps were at work, when a new officer, Babu Chandi Charan Chatterjee opened another camp. In the middle of February 1895, Babu Jagannath

	Officers.	Months.
* November	... 8	... 8
December	... 8	... 8
January	... 8 }	... 8½
ditto	... 9 }	
February	... 9 }	... 9½
ditto	... 10 }	
March	... 10	... 10
April	... 10 }	... 9
do.	... 8 }	
Total	... 53	...

Dutt promoted from being Sadar kanungo, Balasore Collector. He, to be Assistant Settlement Officer, opened a 10th camp. Ten camps were at work through the latter half of February, the whole of March, and the first half of April 1895. Eight camps continued to work till the end of the season. Mr. Thomson and Babu Prasanna Kumar Banerjee were employed during the latter half of April on experimental assessment. Thus, during the field season 53* months' attestation work was done. On 1st May all the attestation was stopped till 8th May when Babu Prasanna Kumar Banerjee, transferred from Bhadrak to head-quarters, began the attestation of the Balasore town and the adjacent pargana of Sunhat. The attestation work done by each officer in each circle is shown in tables Nos. I and II as follows:—

TABLE I.

NAME OF OFFICER.	Name of Circle.	ATTESTATION COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR.		Numbers of months work on attestation.	REMARKS.
		Village.	Plots.		
1	2	3	4	5	6
W. B. Thomson, Esq., c.s. ...	North Balasore ...	200	87,132	5½	Employed for half a month on assessment.
Babu Brigopal Bhattacharjee ...	Ditto ...	178	131,421	6	
„ Abhoy Prasad Dass ...	Ditto ...	306	118,386	6	
„ Chandi Charan Chatterjee ...	Ditto ...	191	41,498	3½	Both officers spent nearly half a month more learning the work in the camp of other Assistant Settlement Officers.
„ Jagannath Dutt ...	Ditto ...	141	46,739	2½	
„ Ramesh Chandra Dass ...	Ditto ...	2	1,913	½	Employed for half month on assessment. Spent half a month more learning his work in an Assistant Settlement Officer's camp.
„ Prasanna Kumar Banerjee ...	Ditto ...	138	72,891	4½	
„ Prasanna Kumar Banerjee ...	West Bhadrak ...	129	132,482	5½	
„ Jogeswar Biswas ...	Ditto ...	223	108,332	5½	Worked half a month in North Balasore Circle. Died on 18th November 1894.
„ Ramesh Chandra Dass ...	Ditto ...	270	152,045	5½	
„ Chhakulal Sarkar ...	Ditto ...	1	839	½	
„ Girish Chandra Dutt ...	East Bhadrak ...	124	143,365	6	
„ Barakristna Mahanty ...	Ditto ...	149	167,172	6	

TABLE II.

NAME OF CIRCLE.	ATTESTATION COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR.				REMARKS.
	Village.	Plots.	Area in acres.	Area in square miles.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
North Balasore	1,066	499,980	315,827·2	493·480	
West Bhadrak	623	39,368	172,444·16	269·444	
East ditto	273	310,637	165,776·0	259·025	

Table No. I shows that in the field season each officer gave an average outturn of about 21,000 plots per mensem. Attestation in recess of the town and its environments was necessarily slower. An average outturn of 15,344 plots per mensem was made by Babu P. K. Banerjee from 8th May to end of September 1895.

7. *Publication of Records.*—Under the rules of 7th November 1894 draft publication follows settlement of fair rents, so that no draft publication was made this year. The draft publication in 43 villages last year resulted in 106 dispute cases being instituted under section 106 between October and December 1894. Of the cases instituted, only eight are important.

8. *Settlement of fair rents.*—In order to learn the procedure Mr. Maddox visited the assessment camps in Cuttack in both November and December 1894. He spent nearly the whole of February in making experiments, proposing rents in 14 villages to 1,172 tenants. He has reported on the work done in this office letter No. 1075 of 5th May 1895. In the latter half April Mr. Maddox opened a circle in the south-east of the district and started the work, giving as much instruction as he could to Mr. Thomson and Babu Prasanna Kumar Banerjee. They carried on the work until the end of the month and proposed rents in nine villages.

9. The procedure in both experimental assessment camps was the same, *i.e.*, soil-map prepared showing blocks of land of similar description and with similar advantages. The new rents which we proposed raised the mufassal jama as follows :—

NAME OF OFFICER DOING EXPERIMENTAL ASSESSMENT.	MUFUSSAL JAMA.			REMARKS.
	Former settlement.	Existing rent.	Proposed rent.	
1	2	3	4	5
S. L. Maddox, Esq., c.s. ...	Rs. A. P. 1,249 12 3	Rs. A. P. 1,527 2 3	Rs. A. P. 2,303 12 10	
W. B. Thomson, Esq., c.s.				
Babu Prasanna Kumar Banerjee.	613 1 1	456 10 8*	1,806 10 6	* The existing rent is for four villages only.

The reason of the enormous increase in the rents proposed by Mr. Thomson and Babu Prasanna Kumar Banerjee is that four out of the nine villages taken up were waste at the time of the last settlement.

10. *Case-work.*—During the year 407 boundary disputes were decided under the Survey Act. Eight appeals were preferred, of which six were heard and two are pending. Decisions of Assistant Settlement Officers were confirmed in five cases and modified in one case.

In consequence of the draft publication of records in 43 villages, 106 cases under section 106 were instituted in the north of the district, 18 cases were instituted in other part of the district, and one was pending from last year. Fifteen cases were taken up by me in recess, but only two were disposed of. The cases under section 106 are generally of trifling importance, *i.e.*, inter-raiyati disputes or small claims by zamindars or lakhirajdars to nijchas. In eight cases suits of declared value of Rs. 40 and upwards were filed—

- 3 claims to lakhiraj, bajiafti and bahal.
- 2 claims to khud kasht.
- 1 claim to thani.
- 1 do. to share in makadumi.
- 1 do. to be declared a permanent sarbarahkar.

11. *Officers.*—Since the beginning of the year the settlement operation in Balasore has been constituted a separate charge under Mr. Maddox who remained in charge throughout the year excepting for the last three months (*i.e.*, 16th July to 30th September 1895) when he went on privilege leave, and Babu Prasanna Kumar Banerjee was placed in charge of the current duties of the office. The following statement will show the names of officers and the dates of their joining the settlement operation in Balasore :—

Serial number.	NAME OF OFFICER.	Name of Circle.	Date of joining.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
1	W. B. Thomson, Esq., c.s. ...	North Balasore Circle Officer.	31st October 1894	
2	Babu Chandi Charan Chatterjee	.....	4th January 1895.	
3	„ Srigopal Bhattacharjee	.....	31st October 1894.	
4	„ Abhay Prasad Dass ...	... ..	28th November 1894.	
5	„ Jagannath Dutt ...	.....	28th January 1895.	
6	„ Prasanna Kumar Banerjee	West Bhadrak Circle Officer.	31st October 1894.	
7	„ Ramesh Chandra Dass ...	.....	4th November 1894.	
8	„ Jogeswar Biswas ...	.....	10th November 1894.	
9	„ Girish Chandra Dutt ...	East Bhadrak Circle Officer.	1st November 1894.	
10	„ Harakristna Mahanty ...	... ..	31st October 1894.	

All of them were engaged in attestation throughout the field season (*i.e.*, from their date of joining here till April 1895), with the exception of Mr. Thomson and Babu Prasanna Kumar Banerjee, who worked in assessment for the last 15 days of the month of April 1895 with me in camp Karanjaria. All officers reverted to the regular line on the 1st of May last, excepting Babu Prasanna Kumar Banerjee and Babu Jagannath Dutt. The former took over charge of the North Balasore Circle Office on the 7th May last, and the latter was placed in charge of the records of West and East Bhadrak Circles, where he joined on 10th May 1895.

Babu Srigopal Battacharjee, after having worked in the regular line from the 1st May to 14th September 1895, rejoined the West Bhadrak Circle Office on 15th September 1895, for preparing preliminary assessment report under tabulation rule 13.

12. *Attestation of Balasore Town and its environments.*—The work was taken up by Babu Prasanna Kumar Banerjee in the middle of May last, and he expects to complete it by the first week of October 1895. The following will show the attestation work done by him till the 30th September last :—

NAMES OF PARGANAS	Total number of plots.	Total number of villages.	Total area in square miles.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
Sunhat	52,413	108	30 199	
Dasmalang	8,401	6	30 70	
Khajuri	8,361	14	8 98	
Korai	2,710	6	1 92	
Dahaimohan	38	1	16	
Nunkhand	958	3	69	
Total	72,891	138	71 265	

The above gives an average of 15,344 plots per month. This short outturn than the average estimated for is partly due to the fact that he could not devote his whole time in this work, as almost every morning he worked with the tabulation muharrirs and disposed of miscellaneous correspondence work of my office. Besides, the town people being generally more careful and intelligent than their mufassal brethren and their land being more valuable, they scrutinized their khatians with special care. The disputes in the town and its vicinity numbered 4,580, of which about 60 per cent. were very keenly contested. The people, being accustomed to the law courts and their procedure resorted to several ingenious methods for concealing the truth; local party feeling also had its share in swelling up the number of disputes and adding to their intricacy. A large part of his time was occupied in these disputes. He first took up for attestation villages lying on the other side of the river Burabalang to save the villagers from the trouble of crossing it during the rains, when it is too full to enable them to cross it with convenience and ease by ordinary dug-outs. It will not be out of place to mention here that the attestation of Purana Balasore, which was the subject of disputes with the French lessee, was completed without any objection from any party. It is a point worthy of note that the town people attended regularly and manly. 143 special notices were issued, most of them against the lakhirajdars who live at a distance from the town. It was so arranged that they were not detained more than the usual time required. Terij and milan khasra work of these mauzas were also completed.

Recess.—Babu Prasanna Kumar Banerjee was engaged during the recess period (*i.e.*, May till September 1895) in tabulating figures of tenants and assets for the attested villages of North Balasore Circle, and also in attesting the town Balasore and its neighbourhood, the details of which have been given in paragraph 12.

Babu Jagannath Dutt supervised the tabulation work of the two Bhadrak Circles. The figures were first tabulated according to the instructions issued Mr. Maddox, and 14 registers were prescribed by me for compiling different statistics. They worked with those instructions till the 30th July last, when new instructions were received from the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal. Registers were accordingly revised; but as they completed the terij work of most of the attested villages before the new rules were received, it was not considered desirable to revise them.

The works done by them are shown in the statements (IX to XVI) appended hereto, and a short note of each is given below:—

- (a) The statement IX will show the total work of each kind done up to 30th September 1895.
- (b) The statement X is the parganawar statement D prepared under rule 9, and the first two headings have been changed to show the name of pargana and the total number of mauzas in each.
- (c) The statement XI is the mahalwar statement D prepared under rule 13.
- (d) The statement XII is the statement F prepared under rules 11 to 13, the first two headings will show the name of pargana and the total number of mahals in the same.
- (e) The forms H have been prepared both parganawar and mahalwar, and they have been marked as XIII and XIV.
- (f) The statements XV and XVI are the forms K. They have been compiled parganawar and mahalwar separately in the present form in which the vertical sub-heads are arranged horizontally.

During the recess a new set of copies of the town records have been prepared for the Balasore Municipality at their own cost.

Cost.—The expenditure incurred during the year under report was Rs. 83,224. The estimated amount for the year from 1st October 1894 to 30th September 1895 was Rs. 94,156. Therefore a saving of Rs. 10,932 was effected during the period under report. The statement No. V shows the expenditure under different heads incurred during the year in this district.

I.

Statement showing progress made in Balasore District in record of rights and settlement of rents under the Bengal Tenancy Act during the year ending 30th September 1895.

Division.	District.	Name of estate or tract under settlement.	Estimated area in square miles under settlement of revenue on rents.	Total number of villages.	Area surveyed in square miles.			Number of villages in which records have been prepared for attestation.		Number of villages of which the draft record of rights has been published under section 105(1) of the Tenancy Act.		Number of villages of which the final record of rights has been published under section 105(2) of the Tenancy Act.		Estimated number of tenants in the villages in column 6.		Number of tenants whose names had been recorded and settlements determined in the Khattas finally published under section 105(2) of the Tenancy Act or under the law which governs the settlement.			Cost during the year.			Remarks.		
					Up to end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Total area surveyed.	Up to end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Up to end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Up to end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Total of columns 18 and 19.	Survey.	Settlement.	Total.							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
Orissa	Balasore	Temporarily-settled parganas.	1,733'11	3,736	1,733'11	Nil.	1,733'11	3,736	Nil.	1,068	1,992	43	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	6,000	..	..	..	..	83,635	83,635	Accurate figures in column 17 cannot be given.	

II.

Statement showing the attestation work done in District Balasore during the year ending 30th September 1895.

NAME OF CIRCLE.	NAME OF OFFICER.	How long employed.	ATTESTATION COMPLETED.												REMARKS.
			VILLAGES.			PLOTS.			TENANTS.			AREA IN ACRES.			
			Up to end of the year under preceding year.	During the year under report.	Total.	Up to end of the year under preceding year.	During the year under report.	Total.	Up to end of the year under preceding year.	During the year under report.	Total.	Up to end of the year under preceding year.	During the year under report.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
North Balasore	W. R. Thomson, Esq.*	6 months	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	* Employed half a month on assessment. Separate figures are given for each officer in Table No. 1.
	Babu Srigopal Bhatta-	8 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Babu Chandi Charan	6 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Babu Jagannath Buti	4 "	43	1,066	1,109	18,527	498,980	518,507	4,737	131,011	135,748	9,780'62	315,827'2	325,607'82	
	Babu Prasanna Kumar	8 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Babu Ramesh Chandra	4 1/2 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
West Bhadrak "	Babu Jogeevar	9 "	632	623	1,305	440,490	393,608	834,188	106,290	96,655	202,945	186,136'86	172,444'16	358,531'02	† Employed half a month on assessment.
	Babu Chhakulal Sar-	6 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Babu Girish Chandra	6 months	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Babu Harakristna Mahanty.	6 "	363	273	636	225,468	310,537	535,995	43,339	69,152	112,491	108,288'05	165,776'	274,082'05	
East Bhadrak "		Total	1,068	1,962	3,060	684,475	1,204,215	1,888,690	154,366	296,818	461,184	304,203'53	654,047'36	958,250'89	

III.

Cases and Appeals.

NATURE OF CASES.	Instituted up to the end of the preceding year.	Instituted during the year under report.	Total.	Disposed of up to the end of the preceding year.	Disposed of during the year under report.	Total.	Remaining at the end of the year under report.	DECISION OF THE REVENUE OFFICERS.				
								Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	Remanded under section 562.	Dismissed for defaults
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Boundary disputes taken up under the Bengal Tenancy Act ...	1,463	258	1,723	1,154	407	1,561	162	...	...	...	...	...
Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act ...	69	125	194	68	2	70	124	...	...	...	...	...
Appeals to Settlement Officer under the Bengal Survey Act ...	...	8	8	...	6	6	2	5	1	...	...	...

IV.

Disposition of Settlement and Assistant Settlement Officers during the year ending 30th September 1895.

NAME OF SETTLEMENT AND ASSISTANT SETTLEMENT OFFICERS.	Tract or estate under settlement.	CIRCLE.	Area of circle in square miles.	Head-quarters.	Whether employed wholly on settlement work, or in addition to the regular district work.	NUMBER OF DAYS ON TOUR FROM HEAD-QUARTERS.		Substantive appointment and grade.	REMARKS.
						During the year under report.	During the half-year under report.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
S. L. Maddox, Esq., C.S.	...		...	Balasure	...	134	41	2nd grade Joint-Magistrate and Officiating Magistrate and Collector, 3rd grade.	
W. B. Thomson, Esq., C.S.	...	North Balasure	649.39	Ditto	...	164	26	Assistant Magistrate, 1st grade, and Officiating Joint-Magistrate 1st grade.	
Babu Srigopal Bhattacharjee	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	175	28	7th grade Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector.	
„ Abhoy Prasad Dass	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	167	26	3rd grade Sub-Deputy Collector and Magistrate.	
„ Chandi Charan Chatterjee	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	103	21	6th grade Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector.	
„ Jagannath Dutt	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	97	35	Offg. Deputy Collector.	
„ Prasanna Kumar Banerjee	...	West Bhadrak	600.4	Bhadrak	...	169	29	Ditto ditto.	
„ Ramesh Chandra Dass	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	159	30	Offg. Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector.	
„ Jageswar Biswas	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	134	24	Offg. Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector.	
„ Chhukulal Sarkar	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	16	...	Offg. Deputy Collector.	
„ Girish Chandra Dutt	...	East Bhadrak	483.32	Ditto	...	157	26	3rd grade Sub-Deputy Collector.	
„ Harakrista Mahanty	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	170	26	Ditto ditto.	
„ Srigopal Bhattacharjee	...	West Bhadrak	...	...	...	...	...	.....	Rejoined on the 15th September, and engaged in writing Preliminary Assessment Report under rule 13 of the new tabulation rule 8, dated

BALASORE DISTRICT.

Settlement Officer's Annual Financial Statement for the year ending 30th September 1895.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment.	Expenditure from 1st October 1894 to end of March 1895.	Expenditure (against each sub-head) from 1st April to 30th September 1895.	Total expenditure (against each sub-head).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Pay and special allowance of— Settlement Officer Travelling allowance of Settlement Officer Pay of Assistant Settlement Officers 2. Fixed establishment of Settlement Officer Travelling allowance of ditto 3. Temporary establishment Regular office establishment of Assistant Settlement Officers 4. Pay of kanungos 5. Travelling allowance— Of Assistant Settlement Officers Of establishment of ditto 6. Supplies and services— Tents 7. Contingencies— Of Settlement Officer Office rent of ditto Contingencies of Assistant Settlement Officers Office rent of ditto Total	Rs. A. P. 0 0 0 49,380 0 0 44,375 10 8 94,153 0 0 From 1st October 1894 to end of March 1895 From 1st April 1895 to end of September 1895 Total allotment for the year ending 30th September 1895	Rs. A. P. 5,906 11 11 765 0 0 11,509 15 7 896 14 10 26 8 0 14,599 6 0 4,570 0 8 437 9 3 3,379 10 0 629 1 0 976 2 0 642 13 3 70 0 0 1,471 9 4 175 0 0 46,066 7 10	Rs. A. P. 9,323 13 8 657 0 0 7,853 5 10 1,355 10 4 82 3 0 9,293 10 0 3,816 3 5 1,035 9 1 2,116 8 0 419 7 0 364 5 0 210 0 0 892 2 0 210 0 0 37,568 13 4	Rs. A. P. 15,229 9 7 1,302 0 0 19,423 5 5 2,242 9 2 108 11 0 23,803 0 0 8,416 4 1 1,493 2 1 5,496 2 0 1,048 8 0 976 2 0 1,007 4 3 280 0 0 2,363 11 4 355 0 0 43,635 5 2	No figures of the expenditure for the previous year can be furnished, as the settlement operation of the district has been a separate charge from the beginning of the settlement year under report.

VI.

Abstract showing progress of work done in District Balasore Settlement during the year ending 30th September 1895.

DISTRICT.	TOTAL WORK TO BE DONE.			TOTAL NUMBER OF RECORDS RECEIVED FROM SURVEY OFFICE.			TOTAL RECORDS ATTESTED.			BALANCE TO BE ATTESTED OR RECORDS RECEIVED.			BALANCE OF THE TOTAL WORK TO BE DONE.			REMARKS.
	Area in square mile.	Village.	Plots.	Area in square mile.	Village.	Plots.	Area in square mile.	Village.	Plots.	Area in square mile.	Village.	Plots.	Area in square mile.	Village.	Plots.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Balasore...	1,733'11	3,736	2,121,455	1,733'11	3,736	2,121,455	1,497'25	3,050	1,888,690	235'851	686	232,846	235'851	686	232,846	

VII.

Statement showing Survey and Khanapuri done during the year ending 30th September 1895.

DIVISION.	District.	Name of estate or tract under settlement.	Area in square miles and decimals under record of rights or settlement of revenue or rent.	Total number of villages.	Estimated number of tenants.	AREA SURVEYED (IN SQUARE MILES AND DECIMALS).			NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH THE INITIAL RECORD-WRITING (KHANAPURI) HAS BEEN FINISHED.		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED FOR ATTESTATION.		COST DURING THE YEAR.			REMARKS.
						Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Total area surveyed.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Survey.	Settlement.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
								Nil.								

VIII.

Statement showing the attestation work done by Babu Prasanna Kumar Banerjee during the recess, i.e., from May to end of September 1895.

* NAME OF CIRCLE.	Month.	ATTESTATION COMPLETED.					REMARKS.
		Number of villages.	Area in square mile.	Tenants.	Number of plots.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
North Balasore ...	May	7	1806	1322	4828		
	June	19	8339	5780	17155		
	July	32	1590	4380	17163		
	August	56	18890	6610	19912		
	September	24	26180	3531	13533		
	Total	138	71265	21953	72801		

STATEMENT IX.

Statement showing the progress of Terij, &c., work done during the recess for 1894-95.

Serial number.	NAMES OF CIRCLES.	TERIJ AND MILAN KHASRA COMPLETED.		FORMS A, B AND PREPARED ACCORDING TO NEW TABULATED RULES.			FORM F.		FORM H.			FORM K.		REMARKS.
		Number of villages.	Number of plots.	Area.	Number of villages.	Number of plots.	Area.	Number of villages.	Number of plots.	Area.	Number of villages.	Number of tenants.	Area.	
1		2	3	4	5	6	7							
1	North Balasore Circle	385	203,600	A. 123,985 D. 1,020	551	242,906	A. 112,604 D. 6,944	469	188,620	A. 84,336 D. 9,744	551	242,906	A. 112,604 D. 6,944	(1) Terij and milan khasra for 52,913 plots for 108 villages of pargana Sunbat were done at the time of attestation and are not included in the columns for terij and milan khasra. * Form K has been prepared mahalwar in accordance with the Director's new rules for a very few mahals which have been completed from 1st August to the end of September 1895, and as all the mahals lying in the villages for which K forms have been prepared, have not been completed, it is difficult to furnish mauzawar figures required in columns 41, 15 and 16. Hence these columns have been left blank.
2	East Bhadrak	262	157477	127	65	44,413	32	65	44,413	98	65	44,413	98	
3	West Bhadrak	579	336,373	241	459	249,561	187	434	228,950	171	434	228,950	171	

BALASORE SETTLEMENT OFFICE, }
The 10th October 1895.

P. K. BANERJEE,
Assistant Settlement Officer, in charge.

APPENDIX IV.

No. 688G.S., dated Chittagong, the 6th October 1895.

From—C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE, Esq., c.s., Settlement Officer, Chittagong,
To—The Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.

I HAVE the honour to submit the annual report on the Chittagong settlement for the survey year ending the 30th September 1895.

2. The existing staff consists of 5 Assistant Settlement Officers and 13 kanungoes. Babu Jogendra Kumar Bose, who was in charge of the Cox's Bazar circles, was succeeded by me at the end of December, and went on leave. Babu Behari Lal Ghosal, Assistant Settlement Officer, employed solely on *mahal milan*, reverted to the general line on the 8th July 1895. Mr. Allen went on seven months' furlough at the beginning of April last, and I was appointed to act for him as Settlement Officer.

3. *Tours*.—Babu Durga Charan Ghosh was in charge of Belgaon, West Patia, East Patia, and Anwara. He did the assessment of Belgaon and mahal milan in his other circles, and also in Raojan. He was on tour 328 days.

Babu Sarat Chandra Das worked at the mahal milan and assessment of North and South Satkania. The mahal milan of Rangonia circle was also in his charge. He was on tour 299 days, and for 46 days was employed in the sadar office under Mr. Allen.

Babu Hari Pada Ghosh was employed on the mahal milan and assessment of Mirsarai and Kumira. He was on leave 14 days and on tour 336 days.

Babu Sasi Mohan Talukdar did similar work in Fatikchhari and Hathazari. He was on leave 15 days and on tour 319 days. Babu Jogendra Kumar Bose was in charge of the Cox's Bazar subdivision. He had nearly completed the mahal milan of Chakaria and Kutubdia, and had begun the assessment of the former, when he went on leave. I do not know how many days he was on tour. As Assistant Settlement Officer I was out in camp for 86 out of 92 days, and completed the mahal milan and assessment of Chakaria and Teknaf.

Mr. Allen between November and the 6th April, when he made over charge, spent 173 days on tour, and since then I have put in 101 days, bringing the Settlement Officers' total up to 274 days. Mr. Allen completed the assessment of all the Jaldi and about half the Sangu circle. Since April I have assessed Kutubdia and about one-third of Raojan.

4. *Statements*.—In addition to the prescribed returns I append three others. Statement A shows the progress made in mahal milan. Statement B shows the total number of villages and tenants in each circle, the number of circles in which assessment is proceeding, the total number of villages and tenants completed during the year under report, and the number now pending. Statement C gives the effect of the operations on the Government revenue.

5. *Survey*.—The total number of villages in the district is 1,080. One thousand and thirty-three had previously been identified; three more have been discovered during the year. The unsurveyed portion of Moheshkhal contains 21 villages. Hence, 23 still remain unidentified. The total area of the district is 2,491.90 square miles; 57.93 square miles of sunkholes have been surveyed. Hence, the surveyed area has now increased to 1,905.59 square miles, and the unsurveyed area has decreased to 586.31 square miles.

The demarcation of the Hili Tract boundary by pillars is proceeding. In the year 1893-94 47 miles in Fatikchhari thana were completed. During the year under report Rangonia and Raojan, with a total area of 44 miles, have been finished, and 16 miles out of 65 in Chakaria had been done, when wild elephants and the rain drove out the amin entrusted with the work. The 49 miles remaining in Chakaria will be completed in the ensuing cold weather.

6. *Attestation*.—Two villages remain in Ramu and three in Moheshkhal for attestation. The two Ramu villages were once entirely completed. They have not therefore been shown in the return No. 15. On an appeal by the owner of a permanently-settled estate situated in them, the Judge ordered the 1,200M. dags to be relaid. This has been done and the records rewritten, but the alterations are so numerous that the re-attestation of both these villages will be required. In the Moheshkhal villages some of our Noabad taluks are missing. For their identification the 1,200M. plots have to be laid down. A good deal of the land of the big Western Patch taluk too had been wrongly recorded and had to be remeasured. The rains put a stop to the work. It will be recommenced in November, and when finished the settlement of Moheshkhal will take little time to complete.

7. *Mahal milan*.—Statement A shows how this work is distributed. By the 30th September 1894, 520 villages had been completed. Two hundred and forty have been disposed of during the year, giving a total of 760 villages finished and 276 pending. In a large majority of those pending, the work has been taken in hand. All the pending villages should

be finally completed during the coming year. The work is sufficiently in advance of assessment. The following statement shows the progress made by each officer:—

NAME.	Number of villages completed.	REMARKS.
1	2	3
Mr. Allen	16	
Babu Durga Charan Ghosh	78	
„ Behari Lal Ghosal	27	
„ Sarat Chandra Das	24	
„ Sasi Mohan Talukdar	51	
„ Hari Pada Ghosh	44	
„ Jogendra Kumar Bose and myself.		
Total	240	

8. *Assessment.*—Statement B shows that the district contains 1,036 villages with 212,655 tenants distributed over 21 circles. Assessment has been taken up in 13 circles containing 709 villages and 152,036 tenants. Of these, the assessment had been completed of 89 villages with 24,406 tenants previous to the year under report. Three hundred and fifty-six villages with 80,997 tenants have been assessed during 1894-95, bringing the total since the commencement of operations up to 445 villages with 105,403 tenants. Assessment remains to be completed therefore in 591 villages with 107,252 tenants. In a good many of the villages shown as pending, the assessment work has been partially done during the year:—

NAME.	Village.	Tenants.
1	2	3
Mr. Allen assessed	20	2,382
Babu Durga Charan Ghosh	50	17,602
„ Sarat Chandra Das	62	14,954
„ Sasi Mohan Talukdar	25	12,613
„ Hari Pada Ghosh	96	11,930
Mr. Stevenson-Moore	103	21,516
Total	356	80,997

The work under this head has fallen very far short of the forecast, which was based on the assumption that each Assistant Settlement Officer could assess 2,000 tenants a month. In my forecast for the ensuing year (No. 464G.S., dated 3rd August 1895) I have assumed that two of the Assistant Settlement Officers can maintain an average of 1,500 tenants a month and the others of 1,000 a month. These are the highest figures they will be able to work up to as an all-round average. At this calculation 26,569 tenants will remain to be assessed at the end of the survey year ending the 30th September 1896. The assessment of the whole district therefore will not be completed before the hot weather of 1897.

The method of assessment was fully described in Mr. Allen's letter No. 159G.S., dated the 7th May 1895, and need not be reproduced here. From Appendix I it will be seen that rents of all kinds have increased from Rs. 4,71,326 to Rs. 6,18,418. In column 18 of this statement the number of tenants in the villages which have been finally published should be shown. The figures have not been compiled. The total number of tenants assessed therefore has instead been entered.

Statement C summarises the effect of the operations up to date on the Government revenue: 31,032 tenants paying direct to Government have been assessed, and the revenue has been increased from Rs. 2,45,617 to Rs. 3,56,415, that is by 45.11, per cent. The following statement shows the percentage of increase in each circle:—

OFFICER.	Circle.	Old revenue.	New revenue.	Increase.	Percentage.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		
Mr. C. G. H. Allen ...	Jaldi ...	9,823	17,118	7,290	74	Large increase due to the creation of a new taluk.
Ditto ...	Sangu ...	1,523	4,508	2,985	196	
Babu Durga Charan Ghosh ...	Belgaon ...	27,224	41,937	14,713	54	
Ditto ...	West Patia ...	3,456	5,247	1,791	52	
Sarat Chandra Das ...	Satkania ...	16,516	32,058	15,542	94	
Hari Pada Ghosh ...	Mirserai ...	10,202	15,373	5,171	50	
Sasi Mohan Talukdar ...	Fatikehari ...	14,073	16,501	2,428	17	
Jogendra Kumar Bose ...	Ramu ...	46,153	69,632	23,479	54	17 ijaras settled by Mr. Fasson. Settled by Mr. Fasson 15 years ago. Settled by Babu Durga Charan Ghosh 10 years ago.
Mr. C. J. S. Moore ...	Do. ...	5,750	5,919	169	3	
Ditto ...	Chakaria ...	43,303	60,584	17,281	40	
Ditto ...	Teknaf ...	35,980	50,625	14,645	41	
Ditto ...	Kutubdia ...	27,632	30,980	3,308	12	
Ditto ...	Raujan ...	3,897	5,953	2,056	53	
	Total ...	2,45,617	3,56,415	1,10,798	45	

The value of these figures is somewhat impaired by the fact that under "jotedars" in statement C are included the figures of new jotedari settlement now made for the first time. Each Assistant Settlement Officer submits weekly statement of talukdars' and ijaradars' proposed rents. The big enhancement in Satkania attracted my attention several months ago, but there were few cases in which I was able to say the new rents were excessive. The previous rents were much too low. A great deal of Fatikehari is poor land held direct by jotedars, and under Government orders the rate of raiyati rents are not enhanced, but I think Babu Sasi Mohan Talukdar ought to get more enhancement out of it than he does.

Taking the total figures for the different classes of tenants who pay direct to Government separately, taluki rents have been raised from Rs. 1,35,195 to Rs. 2,22,869, or by 64 per cent.; ijaradars' rents from Rs. 17,551 to Rs. 19,855, or by 13 per cent.; and jotedars' rents from Rs. 92,871 to Rs. 1,13,691, that is, by 22 per cent. For the enhancement in jotedari rents, the waste land settlements made by me in the south of the district are mainly responsible. The increase due to increase in rates of rayati rents is very insignificant.

9. *Publication.*—With the sanction of the Director of Land Records I stopped the practice of publishing the permanently-settled estates of a village directly the mahal milan was completed and before the assessment of the temporarily-settled estates had been made, because it is often not until assessment that errors come to light necessitating the transfer of plots from one class of *mahal* to another. The difficulty of doing this is enhanced if one of the mahals has already been finally published. Henceforth, all classes of estates in one village will be draft and finally published together. Statement 15 shows the progress made under this head.

10. *Cost.*—The expenditure during the year was Rs. 1,40,406-11-11. The total expenditure from the commencement of operations up to the end of the previous year was—

	Rs.
Survey ...	5,21,766
Settlement ...	5,22,748

Adding this year's figures the total expenditure up to the 30th September 1895 amounts to—

	Rs.
Survey ...	5,25,985
Settlement ...	6,58,935

The difficulties noticed last year were again experienced in filling up the expenditure statement. Of the Assistant Settlement Officers, Babus Durga Charan and Sarat Chandra Das have worked hard and well.

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Khanapuri Work.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER EMPLOYED.	Name of Circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH KHANAPURI WORK WAS COMPLETED—				Number of villages of which Khanapuri is going on, but is incomplete.	Number of villages inspected by Revenue Officer during the month.	Number of amins inspected by Revenue Officer during the month.	Number of plots of which the khasra entries were tested during the month.	REMARKS.
				Up to end of the previous year.		During the year.						
				No.	Area in square miles.	No.	Area in square miles.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Settlement Officer and Assistant Settlement Officers.	Chittagong ...	1,036	Surveyed ... 1,905'59 Unsurveyed ... 586'31* Total ... 2,491'90	1,036	1,847'66	...	Sunkholes 57'93.	...	...	...	...	*Area of unsurveyed portion ... 439'33 Lots ... 65'09 Unsurveyed ... 81'89 Moiscal } Total unsurveyed 686'31

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Boundary Disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Number instituted from the beginning of the year (1st October), including cases pending on 30th September to the end of the previous year.	Number instituted during the year.	Total.	Number disposed of to end of the previous year.	Number disposed of during the year.	Total.	Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT—					REMARKS.
								Instituted, including appeals pending from preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Settlement Officer	(a) 1,569	...	1,569	(a) 1,569	...	1,569	...	...	...	...	...	...	(a) Including cases of Ranjan and East Town Circles.
Babus D. C. Ghosh and B. L. Ghosal.	299	58	357	254	63	317	40	1	1	1	...	...	
Babu S. C. Das	153	24	177	130	31	161	16	...	...	...	...	...	
" S. M. Talukdar	96	30	128	90	10	100	28	...	...	...	...	...	
" H. P. Ghosh	507	25	532	471	44	515	17	...	...	...	...	...	
Mr. C. J. S. Moore and Babu J. K. Bose.	189	88	277	189	86	274	3	...	...	...	...	...	
Total	2,815	225	3,040	2,703	253	2,956	104	1	1	1	...	...	

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Attestation Work, including final publication of Records.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of Circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	Number of villages for which records have been received from the Survey Department.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.				NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT- PUBLISHED—		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED—		REMARKS. (Here note adequacy of work done, or cause of failure to work up to programme.)
					Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Mr. C. J. H. Allen	Jaldi ...	12	46'53	Attestation completed before the commencement of the year under report.									P. S. E. 12	N. ...	P. S. E. 12	N. ...	* Were draft published by Babu Behari Lal Ghosh. † This was shown in the last year's return to be permanently settled estates. ‡ Three villages in the Mirkasera Circle have been traced out this year.
	Sangu ...	34	58'54										6	...	9	15	
	Belgaon ...	50	108'79										39	12	11	38	
	Anwara ...	66	39'14										...	...	...	...	
Babu D. C. Ghosh	West Patia ...	110	79'54										41*	...	34	...	
	East do. ...	87	99'75										...	...	...	...	
	South Satkania ...	24	112'00										34	15†	29	...	
	North ditto ...	64	103'27										36	...	20	...	
" S. C. Das	Rangonia ...	44	103'78										...	...	...	...	
	Fatikchhari ...	74	180'52										43	...	25	36	
" S. M. Talukdar.	Hathazari ...	51	76'14										...	...	...	...	
	Mirkasera ...	126	109'13										...	80	79	...	
" H. P. Ghosh	Kumira ...	40	47'50										...	...	...	...	
	Ramu ...	50	245'77										50	50	...	48	
	Chakaria ...	52	79'94										...	52	52	...	
	Kutubdia ...	6	34'83										2	...	4	2	
	Teknaf ...	15	121'97										...	1	15	...	
Mr. C. J. S. Moore	East Town ...	14	20'38										...	...	...	...	
	West do. ...	22	37'68										...	...	...	...	
	Ranjan ...	82	104'31										49	...	32	...	
	Maishkhal ...	3	19'25							3	19'25	1,000	4,338	...	...	...	
	Total	1,030†	1,847'66	...	...	...	...	...	3	19'25	1,000	4,338	312	77	273	280	

A.

Statement showing the progress in the various Circles in the mahal milan or adjustment of areas of mahals during the survey year ending 30th September 1895.

CIRCLES.	Officers employed.	Total number of villages.	VILLAGES OF WHICH MAHAL MILAN HAVE BEEN COMPLETED—			Remain- ing.	REMARKS.
			Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Jaldi	Mr. C. G. H. Allen	12	12		12		
Bangu	Ditto	34	18	16	34		
Bolgaon	Babu D. C. Ghosh	60	48	2	50		
Raujan	Ditto	82	75	7	82		
Anwara	Ditto	66		7	7	59	
East Patia	Ditto	87		31	31	56	
West do.	Ditto	110	67	31	98	12	
South Sarkanika	Babu S. C. Das	34	34		34		
North ditto	Ditto	64	43	21	64		
Bangonia	Ditto	41		6	6	35	
Fatikchhari	Babu S. M. Talukdar	74	58	13	71	3	
Hathazari	Ditto	51		11	11	40	
Mirkaseral	Babu H. F. Ghosh	126	76	44	119	7	
Kumira	Ditto	14		7	7	33	
East Town	Mr. C. J. S. Moore	40	1	5	6	8	
West do.	Ditto	22		6	6	17	
Bamu	Ditto	50	50		50		
Chakaria	Ditto	52	35	17	52		
Kutubdia	Ditto	6	2	4	6		
Tekoaif	Ditto	15	2	13	15		
Matsekhal	Ditto	3				3	
	Total	1,636	620	240	760	276	Three villages have been found this year in this circle.

B.

Form No. 15(1) B. Revised IV. (Revised as per Director of Land Records' Inspection Note of February 1895.)

CIRCLE.	Name of Revenue Officer.	Area in square miles.	Total number of villages.	Total number of tenants.	COMPLETED TO END OF SEPTEMBER 1894.		COMPLETED TO END OF THE CURRENT YEAR.		TOTAL COMPLETED.		REMAINING.		NUMBER OF DECISIONS AGAINST SPECIAL JUDGE—			NUMBER OF DECISIONS UPHOLD—			NUMBER OF DECISIONS MODIFIED—			NUMBER OF DECISIONS REVERSED—			REMARKS.
					Villages.	Tenants.	Villages.	Tenants.	Villages (column 6+8).	Tenants (column 7+9).	Villages (column 4+10).	Tenants (column 5+11).	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Saldi	Mr. C. G. H. Allen	46.53	12	8,127	1	1,753	8	1,327	9	3,120	3	7	1	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bangan	Ditto	58.34	24	6,757	1	1,393	12	1,025	13	1,413	21	5,359	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relgan	Babu D. C. Ghosh	108.79	50	19,219	29	6,741	21	12,478	50	19,219	81	15,153	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
West Patia	Ditto	74.01	110	20,277	...	...	29	5,124	29	5,124	81	15,297	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
South Satkania	Babu S. C. Das	112.90	34	8,242	1	2,111	29	5,824	30	7,935	4	297	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
North ditto	Ditto	103.27	64	9,738	...	...	33	9,120	33	9,120	31	618	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fatikchari	Babu S. M. Talukdar	180.52	74	23,295	...	2,110	25	12,613	29	14,723	45	8,572	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mirakeral	H. P. Ghosh	109.13	126	14,403	5	159	96	11,939	101	12,089	25	2,380	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chakaria	Mr. C. J. S. Moore	79.94	63	7,159	...	...	62	7,159	62	7,159	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Teknaf	Ditto	121.97	15	6,232	...	...	15	6,232	15	6,232	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kutubdia	Ditto	34.83	76	2,228	...	...	...	2,228	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ramu	Ditto	245.77	80	11,570	43	11,129	...	17	48	11,146	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Maikhal	Ditto	104.31	82	19,663	...	...	30	6,820	30	6,820	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Raujan	Ditto	20.35	3	1,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
East Town	Ditto	19.25	14	6,175	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
West do.	Ditto	37.68	22	7,107	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
East Patia	Ditto	39.75	87	12,654	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Anwara	Babu D. C. Ghosh	39.14	68	10,837	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hathazari	Ditto	76.14	51	11,411	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kumira	Babu S. M. Talukdar	47.50	40	3,148	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rangonia	" H. P. Ghosh	103.78	44	8,287	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	" S. C. Das																								
	Total	1,824.13	1,036	212,655	89	24,406	356	80,997	445	105,403	591	107,252	2	2	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

XXX

Statement showing the effect of the assessment on the Government Revenue from the commencement up to 30th September 1895.

CIRCLE.	Assessing Officer.	TALUKDARS'—			IJARADARS'—			JOTEDARS PAYING DIRECT.			TOTAL.			Increase.	Decrease.	REMARKS.
		No.	Old rent.	New rent.	No.	Old rent.	New rent.	No.	Old rent.	New rent.	No.	Old rent.	New rent.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Jaldi ...	Mr. C. G. H. Allen ...	Rs. 158	Rs. 5,917	Rs. 11,943	Rs. 10	Rs. 2,510	Rs. 2,998	Rs. 217	Rs. 1,401	Rs. 2,182	Rs. 385	Rs. 9,928	Rs. 17,188	Rs. 7,294	Rs. 4	
Sangu ...	Ditto ...	177	805	2,921	3	189	223	164	1,229	1,364	344	1,523	4,508	3,073	83	
South Satkania ...	Babu S. C. Das ...	897	9,107	19,720	11	231	270	1,205	1,123	1,859	2,113	10,461	21,840	11,388	...	
North ditto ...	Ditto ...	1,449	4,480	8,062	3	327	344	1,194	1,248	1,853	2,046	6,055	10,209	4,154	...	
Mirkesarai ...	Babu H. P. Ghosh ...	1,376	5,702	9,900	36	1,475	1,550	1,638	3,025	3,923	3,050	10,202	15,373	5,193	22	
Chakaria ...	J. K. Bose ...	95	21,603	35,539	13	2,401	2,760	980	19,354	22,285	1,088	43,363	60,584	17,697	476	
Ramu ...	Mr. C. J. S. Moore ...	185	32,851	53,487	...	...	...	1,431	15,302	16,145	1,616	46,153	69,632	23,479	...	
	Babu J. K. Bose ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Teknaf ...	Mr. C. J. S. Moore ...	34	15,577	23,129	17	5,760	5,919	...	19,187	26,113	1,913	5,750	5,919	168	...	
Kutubdia ...	Ditto ...	193	9,455	11,218	3	1,240	1,383	1,876	18,197	19,742	1,355	35,980	50,625	14,752	107	
Kaujan ...	Ditto ...	694	1,524	3,350	10	41	45	1,192	1,832	2,678	2,673	27,552	30,900	3,352	24	
Belgaon ...	Babu D. Charan Ghosh ...	4,328	22,011	35,135	44	3,278	4,204	1,809	1,935	2,533	5,621	3,897	5,953	2,059	3	
West Patia ...	Ditto ...	2,051	3,084	4,778	1	13	13	1,249	1,355	2,533	5,621	27,224	41,937	14,713	...	
Fatikchhari ...	S. M. Talukdar ...	620	2,674	3,707	4	90	91	403	359	456	2,455	3,456	5,247	1,791	...	
								5,302	11,309	12,703	5,826	14,073	16,501	2,428	...	
	Total ...	12,157	1,35,195	2,22,869	155	17,551	19,855	18,720	92,871	1,13,691	31,032	2,45,617	3,56,415	1,11,522	724	

* For the current survey year only.

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Objections under Section 105 and Disputes under Section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Nature of case.	NUMBER INSTITUTED—			NUMBER DISPOSED OF—			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF THE MONTH UNDER REPORT—					REMARKS.
		Up to the end of the previous year including cases pending on 30th September of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending on 30th September of preceding year.	Decided.	Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Settlement Officers ...	Objections heard and considered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act.	693	311	1,004	607	295	902	102	...	...	...	...	...	
	Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	168	...	168	168	...	168	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Total ...	861	311	1,172	775	295	1,070	102	...	...	...	...	...	
Babus Durga Charan Ghosh and Behari Lal Ghosal.	Objections, section 105.	653	609	1,262	580	621	1,201	61	4	4	4	...	...	
	Disputes, section 106.	185	3	188	165	2	167	21	15	15	8	1	6	
	Total ...	838	612	1,450	745	623	1,368	82	19	19	12	1	6	
Babu Sarat Chandra Das.	Objections, section 105.	1,022	1,550	2,572	584	1,839	2,423	149	...	...	...	...	...	
	Disputes, section 106.	94	3	97	89	2	91	6	37	37	28	3	6	
	Total ...	1,116	1,553	2,669	673	1,841	2,514	155	37	37	28	3	6	
Babu Sasi Mohan Talukdar.	Objections, section 105.	150	1,608	1,758	109	1,457	1,566	102	3	3	3	...	...	
	Disputes, section 106.	4	...	4	2	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Total ...	154	1,608	1,762	111	1,459	1,570	102	3	3	3	...	...	
Babu Hari Pada Ghosh.	Objections, section 105.	...	230	230	...	204	204	26	...	...	...	...	...	
	Disputes, section 106.	18	4	22	13	7	20	2	1	...	...	...	...	
	Total ...	18	234	252	13	211	224	28	1	...	...	...	...	
Mr. C. J. Stevenson-Moore, and Babu Jorengra Kumar Bose.	Objections, section 105.	23	148	171	23	143	166	5	...	...	...	...	...	
	Disputes, section 106.	677	21	698	675	21	696	2	...	...	...	...	...	
	Total ...	700	169	869	698	164	862	7	...	...	...	...	...	
Grand Total ...	Objections, section 105.	2,541	4,456	6,997	1,903	4,559	6,462	535	7	7	7	...	...	
	Disputes, section 106.	1,146	31	1,177	1,112	34	1,146	31	53	52	37	...	12	
	GRAND TOTAL ...	3,687	4,487	8,174	3,015	4,593	7,608	566	60	59	43	4	12	

Settlement Officer's Annual Financial Statement.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment (against each sub-head) for financial year 1895-96.	Expenditure to end of the previous year (against each sub-head) expenditure during survey year 1893-94.	Expenditure during the month (against each sub-head) for the survey year 1894-95.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Pay and special allowance of—				
Settlement Officer ...	13,500	13,110 5 4	16,406 4 10	
Assistant Settlement Officers ...	34,800	19,131 7 8	21,722 11 5	
2. Fixed establishment ...	42,678	27,672 0 0	31,707 7 6	
3. Temporary establishment ...		8,652 5 0	18,988 14 11	
4. Contract and job work ...	41,943	36,239 1 0	21,324 0 11	
5. Travelling allowance—				
Of officers ...	13,470	7,815 13 7	8,844 2 0	
Of establishment ...	11,244	14,460 0 0	10,814 6 0	
6. Supplies and services—				
Forms ...		400 3 0	676 15 3	
Tents ...		360 14 3	486 14 6	
Petty construction ...		260 3 4	870 13 9	
„ repairs ...		250 6 5	209 7 11	
7. Contingencies—				
Hot-weather charges ...	11,824	300 6 0	119 0 0	
Office rent ...		.....	123 0 0	
Service telegrams ...		89 0 0	77 1 0	
„ postage charges ...		700 3 2	843 14 0	
&c., &c., &c. ...		8,310 11 0	7,191 7 3	
Total ...	1,69,459	1,37,692 15 9	1,40,406 11 11	

Statement to be used in Annual Reports showing the status and rent of tenants as recorded in the khatians from commencement of the year under report.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LANDS.					REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class.	Average area of cultivated lands per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per cultivated acre.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
				Rs.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Proprietor's <i>sir</i> (<i>nij jote</i>) ...	8,015	6,607.74	.82	...	...	
2. Held by proprietors, but not true <i>sir</i> .	28,865	31,026.40	1.09	...	...	
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders.	144,079	150,253.20	1.10	4,60,442	2 14 3	
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents.	97,947	80,432.55	.91	3,74,984	4 3 0	
5. Settled raiyats ...	291,292	236,975.84	.81	10,89,214	4 9 6	
6. Occupancy raiyats ...	9,653	12,459.04	1.29	44,791	3 9 6	
7. Non-occupancy raiyats ...	26,333	18,397.27	.69	1,10,224	5 15 10	
8. Rent-free holders ...	8,633	9,164.16	.06	...	...	
Total ...	614,827	563,916.20	.91	20,87,724	3 11 2	

C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE,

Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX V.

No. 124, dated Midnapore, the 20th September 1895.

From—BABU JOTINDRA MOHAN SINHA, Deputy Collector in charge,
To—The Collector of Midnapore.

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith the annual report of the Pataspur temporarily-settled estates for the year ending 30th September 1895, which has been drawn up by Babu Pramatha Nath Datta, Settlement Officer, now on leave.

No. 330S., dated Midnapore, the 21st September 1895.

Memo. by—The Offg. Collector of Midnapore.

Copy of the above, with the annual report in original, forwarded to the Director of Land Records, Bengal.

Report on the progress of the survey and settlement operations of the temporarily-settled estates in pargana Pataspur of district Midnapore for the year ending 30th September 1895.

1. *Short account of the operations up to 30th September 1895.*—The area under settlement consists of 18 temporarily-settled estates, lying in 96 villages, with an aggregate area of 54·7* square miles and containing 81,587 khasra numbers. The survey and settlement of these 18 estates were sanctioned in Government Notification No. 3734, dated 23rd October 1892. Babu Satis Chandra Bose was appointed Settlement Officer of these estates, and some private estates under settlement under the Tenancy Act in November 1893. He fell ill, and took leave from 1st May 1894. A Deputy Collector of the general line remained in charge of the current duties of the office till Babu Lalit Chandra Das Gupta's appointment as Settlement Officer on 1st June 1894. He also fell ill, and took leave from 18th August 1895. There was no special Settlement Officer to the end of the year 1893-94. During the field season of 1892-93 the survey was finished and *khasras* were written for 38 villages and *khatians* were completed for 23 villages. During the next field season the record-writing of the whole area was completed and records were attested of 48 villages with an area of 14·96 square miles and containing 24,386 khasra numbers. The cause of the slow progress up to 30th September 1894 and the excess of expenditure over the estimates have been already dealt with in the previous annual reports.

2. *Staff.*—The following tabular statement shows the staff of officers employed on the work during the year and the period for which each was employed:—

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Designation.	Period for each employed.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4
Babu Surendra Nath Mazumdar...	Deputy Collector in-charge of the current duties of the office.	1st October 1894 to 22nd December 1894.	
„ Pramatha Nath Datta ...	Settlement Officer ...	23rd December 1894 to 16th September 1895.	
„ Nani Lal Mukerji ...	Assistant Settlement Officer.	10th December 1894 to 9th June 1895.	Reverted to general duty from 10th June 1895.

Babu Pramatha Nath Datta was principally employed on the ordinary work of the district staff from 1st August, as there was no sufficient settlement work in his hands. He took leave from 17th September 1895.

3. *Tours.*—Babu Pramatha Nath Datta, Settlement Officer, was on tour from the 26th December 1894 to 30th July 1895, and again from 8th September to 14th September 1895.

Babu Nani Lall Mukerji, Assistant Settlement Officer, was on tour from 26th December 1894 to 9th June 1895. The following tabular statement shows the period for which each officer was on tour and the number of days devoted to the Pataspur work :—

NAME AND DESIGNATION OF OFFICER.	Number of days out on tour.	Number of days devoted to the Pataspur work.	NUMBER OF DAYS AT HEAD-QUARTERS—		REMARKS.
			On Pataspur work.	On other work.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Babu Pramatha Nath Datta, Settlement Officer.	224	141	3	1	This does not include the number of days spent at head-quarters after the 31st July 1895, when he worked as an ordinary member of the district staff.
Babu Nani Lall Mukerji, Assistant Settlement Officer.	157	149	4	12	Leave nine days.

4. *Statement of work of the year.*—The subjoined statement shows approximately the number of days devoted to each stage of the Pataspur work :—

NAME AND DESIGNATION OF OFFICER.	NUMBER OF DAYS SPENT ON—													REMARKS.
	Attestation.	Boundary dispute.	Assessment.	Checking of records, supervision of terling, etc.	An enquiry under section 176, C. P. C., under the orders of the District Magistrate.	Enquiry into a petition for improvement of drainage, etc., by the ryots of Mathura and other villages.	Miscellaneous office work.	Illness.	Inspection of Assistant Settlement Officer's camp and inspection by the Director of Land Records.	Meeting the Collector at Feroz to discuss settlement works.	Journey to and from head-quarters.	Total number of days spent on tour.	Casual leave and leave for departmental examination.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Babu Pramatha Nath Datta, Settlement Officer.	83	3	12	12	2	2	10	9	5	2	1	141	...	Eighteen days were spent on office work and checking of records from May to July, when there was little attestation work remaining and the report on assessment had been submitted.
Babu Nani Lall Mukerji, Assistant Settlement Officer.	113	12	...	15	...	...	5	...	1	...	3	140	9	Of 113 days shown in column 2 he was present in the Settlement Officer's camp for three days to watch and learn the work.

Babu Pramatha Nath Datta spent three days at head-quarters after joining his appointment in making himself acquainted with the work in his hands by reading the previous correspondence about the settlements in his charge, settling the budget estimates and a provisional programme for the year, and making the necessary appointments and other arrangements requisite for the field season previous to his departure for Pataspur. Babu Nani Lall Mukerji, Assistant Settlement Officer, who joined on 10th December 1894, was employed at head-quarters pending the arrival of the Settlement Officer on miscellaneous office duties till his departure for Pataspur with the Settlement Officer on 26th December 1894.

5. *Attestation.*—It was noticed in the last annual report that the attestation work done was incomplete. It has been found that in most cases the existing rents and status were not entered, and even the preliminary *bujarat* was defective and had to be nearly all done over again. In some cases the boundary disputes had not been decided and no orders had been passed on many of the objections filed. This was, no doubt, partly due to the adoption by the former Settlement Officers of the old system of sending out a *bujarat* muharrir to a village in advance, which has now been given up in all important settlements as faulty. It was decided after the Director's inspection in the latter part of January to take up this work simultaneously with the attestation work of the villages taken up for the first time during the year. It was found on actually taking up the work that the completion of attestation often involved as much work as attestation in a new village.

This will appear from the comparative statement given below, which shows separately the work done for four villages done last year and for four villages taken up this year:—

NAME OF VILLAGE.	Number of plots.	Number of khatians.	Number of objections disposed of this year.	Number of plots in which correction of records was necessary this year.	Number of khatians in which existing rents and status were recorded this year.	Number of boundary disputes decided this year.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<i>Villages done last year.</i>							
Hinehbar ...	93	33	10	23	32	1	
Kharica Patna ...	688	126	32	63	110	1	
Kunjaberia ...	1,108	186	90	95	150	...	
Sahebnagore ...	124	56	37	32	39	...	
<i>Villages done this year.</i>							
Kamalpur ...	688	137	103	177	87	...	
Nimuja ...	456	68	48	100	27	...	
Makrampur ...	1,658	349	129	195	180	...	
Sanukumerda ...	564	78	56	163	49	...	

A set of attestation rules was drawn up by Babu Pramatha Nath Datta after he had joined, and these rules were revised and added to in accordance with the Director's instructions. In the revised rules it was directed that comparative statements of *bahali* (revenue-free), *bazyapti* (resumed revenue-free), and *jagir* (service) lands should be drawn up on the lines followed in Orissa. The great number of these tenures (*vide* statement of status appended to the report) added considerably to the work which was further increased by wrong entries having been made by the *khanapuri* amins and on account of subdivision and changes since the last settlement. The number of objections preferred and the amount of corrections necessary in the records were disproportionately large, as will appear from the statement below:—

Number of villages.	Number of plots.	Number of objections (excluding those done last year).	Number of plots about which corrections were made (excluding those done last year).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
96	81,587	6,905	11,888	

The difficulties were further enhanced by the inexperience of the establishment, most of the muharrirs who had to be employed being new to the work. It was necessary to compare the *khatians* and *khassas*, which often did not agree. In a few villages the *khanapuri* of many of the plots was incomplete and had to be completed before attestation. Khatians of five villages with 15,890 plots had to be written. In one village and parts of two village there was no *raiayatwari khanapuri*, which had to be done at the time of attestation. One village had been partly surveyed, and the survey of the whole village was completed at the time of attestation. The following tabular statement shows the amount of attestation work done during the year:—

NAME AND DESIGNATION OF OFFICER.	Number of days employed.	NEW ATTESTATION.			RE-ATTESTATION OF WORK DONE LAST YEAR.			TOTAL ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THIS YEAR.			Average number of plots done per month.	REMARKS.
		Village.	Area.	Plots.	Village.	Area.	Plots.	Village.	Area.	Plots.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Babu Pramatha Nath Datta, Settlement Officer.	83	26	16,94	24,933	28	6'83	11,403	54	23'77	36,336	13,133	
Babu Nani Lall Mukerji, Assistant Settlement Officer.	110	22	22'80	32,268	20	8'13	12,983	42	30'93	45,251	12,341	

The progress will no doubt appear slow as compared with the progress of other settlements. I have enumerated above some of the difficulties which I had to encounter, and as causes of the slow progress may be mentioned—

- (a) In the earlier part of the season the attestation of only one village was taken up at a time, in accordance with the instruction of the Director, for doing the attestation in the village attested as much as possible. Later on in this season, when it was decided to take up the attestation of several villages simultaneously, better progress was made.
- (b) Failure of the owners of the *bazyapti* and *bahali* tenures to attend at the attestation, many of them being non-resident and feeling no interest in the proceedings on account of the impression that the settlement proceedings did not affect them, as at the last settlement the rents of the *bazyapti* tenures were declared to have been fixed in perpetuity, and the Settlement Officer under the Tenancy Act had practically no power to deal with revenue-free lands.
- (c) The difficulties caused by the *bazyapti* and *bahali* lands being inextricably mixed up with the ordinary *mal* (revenue paying lands). Thus not infrequently one plot contains lands belonging to a *bahali* tenure, a *bazyapti* tenure, and a *mal* holding belonging to one and the same person without any specification of boundaries. The number of plot entries in the khatians was thus much larger than the khasra numbers. The attestation of the whole area was finished during the year. After the attestation the records were regularly checked. The check of records has been completed in respect of all the villages attested except five.

6. *Boundary disputes*.—Fourteen boundary disputes, including four pending from the last year, came up for disposal. They have all been decided. There were three appeals to the Commissioner, and all of them have been rejected.

7. *Assessment*.—Babu Pramatha Nath Datta, Settlement Officer, visited Contai for collecting materials for a preliminary report on assessment. The report with its enclosures was submitted in this office letter No. 18, dated ^{10th}/_{27th} April 1895. As no orders on the report were received, no steps could be taken towards settlement of rents. The *jamabandis* of 20 villages were worked out according to the proposals, but the work was stopped pending receipt of orders on the report about assessment.

8. *Expenditure*.—The total expenditure during the year on settlement was Rs. 8,808-11-8. There is no budget allotment for the survey year, but budget allotment for the financial year 1893-94 was Rs. 10,000, and Rs. 8,000 has been allowed for the current financial year. If we take the mean of these two sums as a budget allotment for the survey year 1894-95, the expenditure appears to have fallen short of it by Rs. 191-3-4.

The following tabular statement shows approximately the expenditure under the different heads of work:—

Attestation, including tirij-writing and completion of records.	Assessment.	Record-writing and copying of khatians and decisions of boundary disputes.	Work unconnected with settlement proper.	Total.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Rs. 8,126	Rs. 270	Rs. 284	Rs. 129, including Rs. 57-9 incurred by the Survey Department.	Rs. 8,809	

The total area attested was 54·7 square miles, and the expenditure was Rs. 8,126, which gives a cost rate of Rs. 148-8 per square mile. This is no doubt a high figure, but I have enumerated before the difficulties of the work. The nature of the work resembles most nearly that in Orissa, and there the expenditure in 1893-94 on attestation was Rs. 1,11,615 for an attested area of 641·51 square miles, which gives a cost rate of Rs. 173 per square mile.

9. In concluding this report I have to express my thanks to Babu Nani Lall Mukerji, who gave great assistance in completing the troublesome and difficult attestation work of the Pataspur estates.

10. The statements prescribed by Director's Circular No. 63S., dated the 26th August 1895, are submitted herewith.

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Khanapuri Work.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER EMPLOYED.	Name of Circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH KHANAPURI WORK WAS COMPLETED—				Number of villages of which kharapuri is going on (but is incomplete.	Number of villages inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of amins inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of plots of which the kharas entries were tested during the year.	REMARKS.
				Up to end of the previous year.		During the year.						
				No.	Area in square miles.	No.	Area in square miles.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Babu Pramatha Nath Datta, Settlement Officer.	Pataspur Es- tates.	96	54.7	96	54.7	...	...	...	...	...	...	

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of boundary disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NUMBER INSTITUTED—			NUMBER DISPOSED OF—			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
	From the beginning of the year (1st October), including cases pending on 31st September, to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending from preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Babu Pramatha Nath Datta, Settlement Officer.	19	3	22	15	7	22	...	2	2	2	...	...	
Babu Nani Lal Mukerji, Assistant Settlement Officer.	...	7	7	...	7	7	...	1	1	1	...	...	
Total	19	10	29	15	14	29	...	3	3	3	...	...	

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Attestation Work, including final publication of Records.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of Circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	Number of villages for which records have been received from the Survey Depart- ment.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PRE- VIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.				NUMBER OF VIL- LAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT- PUBLISHED—		NUMBER OF VIL- LAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED—		REMARKS.
					Number of vil- lages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of vil- lages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Up to the end of the previ- ous year.	During the year.	Up to the end of the previ- ous year.	During the year.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Babu Pramatha Nath Datta, Set- tlement Officer.	Pataspur estates.	96	5.47	96	48	14.96	4,189	24,386	26	16.94	4,352	24,933	...	...	...	...	
Babu Nani Lal Mukerji, Assis- tant Settlement Officer.									22	22.80	5,516	32,268	...	...	...	...	
Total									48	39.74	9,867	57,201	...	...	...	...	

Settlement Officer's Annual Financial Statement.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment (against each sub-head)	Expenditure to end of the previous year (against each sub-head).	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head).	Balance remaining (against each sub-head).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Pay and allowances of— Settlement Officer ... Assistant Settlement Officer ...	Rs. 9,000 being taken as the mean of the allotments for the financial years 1894-95 and 1895-96.	Rs. A. P. 4,816 10 11	Rs. A. P. 4,186 12 8		
2. Fixed establishment ...					
3. Temporary establishment ...		3,484 7 2	3,597 7 1		
4. Contract and job work ...					
6. Supplies and services - Forms ... Tents ... Petty construction ... " repairs ...					
7. Contingencies— Hot-weather charges ... Office rent ... Service telegram ... " postage charges ... &c. &c. &c.		665 6 8	1,024 7 11		
Total ...		8,966 8 9	8,808 11 8		

Statement showing the status and rent of tenants as recorded in the khatians from commencement of the year under report.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LANDS.					REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class.	Average area of cultivated lands per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per cultivated acre.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Proprietor's sir (nij jote) ...		Acres.	Acres.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
2. Held by proprietors, but not true sir ...	102	1,751.21	17.13	...	...	
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders ...	1,892	2,915.83	1.54	1,201 0 2	0 6 7	
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents ...	...	...	...	...	...	
5. Settled raiyats ...	8,720	16,701.40	1.93	46,784 1 10	2 12 9	
6. Occupancy raiyats ...	867	527.41	.61	46 4 8	0 0 10*	
7. Non-occupancy raiyats ...	1,924	7,004.45	3.64	...	...	
8. Rent-free holders ...	...	...	...	...	...	
Total ...	13,505	28,900.30	24.88	...	...	

* Rents have not yet been fixed for many of these holdings.

APPENDIX VI.

No. 188S, dated Bogra, the 15th/₁₉ September 1895.

From—BABU SARAT CHANDRA DAS, Settlement Deputy Collector, Bogra,
To—The Collector of Bogra.

WITH reference to your memorandum No. 688G., dated 7th instant, and enclosure, I have the honour to submit the annual report of the settlement of Jaipur Government estates for the year from 1st October 1894 to September 1895, together with statements as prescribed in Government order No. 147T.R., dated 7th June 1894, read with Board's Circular order No. 48A., dated 6th September 1894.

2. *General information.*—The survey and settlement of Jaipur Government estates under Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act was ordered in Government notification of 24th January 1893. There are eight estates which comprise the Jaipur Government estates: they lie along the Northern Bengal State Railway in thanas Nawabganj and Panchbibi and contain both *pau* and *khear* lands. There are jungle and sandy lands in almost every village. There are 42 villages in which Government has share jointly with other lands. There are specified lands of private zamindars in few other villages.

3. *Area dealt with under each different stage of work, &c.*—The area of these estates, together with number of villages and tenants, are given below from the register prepared by order of the Director of Land Records and Agriculture which was compiled from the survey records:—

ESTATE.	Number of villages.	Number of tenants.	Area in acres.	Number of plots.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Government khas mahal	157	8,362	32,218	48,014	
Private zamindars' ...	...	1,434	3,329	6,649	
Total ...	157	9,796	35,547	54,663	

The area of khas mahal is therefore 32,218 acres, or 50·3 square miles, or 55·5 square miles for the entire area surveyed.

There is only one circle, as there is only one Settlement Officer.

4. *Staff; period for which each officer has been employed, &c., &c.*—Babu Nitya Nanda Ghosh was Settlement Officer from the beginning. He joined on the 9th February 1894, and reverted to general duty from the 18th August 1894. He did not ultimately return to settlement work. I was subsequently appointed Settlement Officer, and joined the post on 27th November 1894, afternoon, and reverted to General Department from the afternoon of 15th June 1895. I was on tour for 76 days. Khanjanpur is the head-quarters of the Jaipur khas mahal. The days spent in attestation and other work done at Khanjanpur of villages adjacent are excluded from the 76 days. I was the only officer, and the entire work in connection with settlement was in my hand.

5. *Record-writing, &c.*—The Survey Department had to do the work of record-writing. The traverse survey party took the field in February 1893 under a professional Survey Party, the demarcation having been made by the General Department before the Survey Party arrived. By the end of July 1893, when the survey operations for the year were closed, traverse survey had been completed for an area of 66·41 square miles and cadastral survey for an area of 13·5 square miles comprising 22 villages. The survey operations were completed and the whole of record-writing for the 55·5 square miles, comprised in the estates, was finished during the year previous.

On a reference to the records I find that the then Settlement Officer, Babu Nitya Nanda Ghosh, checked the khaspuri of 43 villages. No further details about the inspection done by Settlement Officer could be found.

All the records were sent to the Collector of Bogra by the Survey Department before October 1894. The Survey Department did not prepare and submit khewat of any village, and this I am required to prepare.

6. *Attestation, including record of rents.*—No attestation work could be done last year, as the Survey Department were unable to furnish completed records till after the field season had ended.

After I joined in the afternoon of 27th November 1894, I was at once employed in taking charge of the records sent by the Survey Department and which were lying in the Manager's office. No forms of any kind were in the office. Form of notices under Rule 11 of the revised rules of Government (Rule 16 of the old rules) was not received. Thus I had to write for them urgently, and at last, while the Commissioner of the Division

To write 157 notices was hardly work for a mubarrir for a week.

W. C. M.

was at Khanjanpur in December 1894, he was kind enough on my representation to send a telegram to the Superintendent of Stationery for the forms. They were not received before latter part of December 1894, and I commenced to issue notices in manuscript. With the approval of the Commissioner of the Division, I commenced to make preliminary attestation simultaneously with the issue of notices. The rules require that a month's time is to be allowed before commencing attestation; but as the best part of the field season would then pass over without doing any attestation work, this procedure was approved, on the understanding that final attestation will not be taken up until the period fixed by the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces, is over in each case. I therefore could not take up the work of final attestation before February 1895. In the course of my work of final attestation, I found that I cannot make the tenants understand their lands without making a comparison of the tracing and khasra on the spot. This was at once reported, and the procedure suggested was approved of by the Commissioner of the Division and by the Director of Land Records and Agriculture in April 1895 on the report of the Collector of the district. Mr. MacHattan, Extra Assistant Superintendent of the Survey of India, lent me amins and instruments to carry on the work, and he himself came to Jaipur to see the work. He has expressed in his letter No. 248, dated nil, to the Director of Surveys in Bengal, paragraph 8: "With reference to record-writing, I beg to suggest that attestation be carried on plot by plot in the field, as was the practice formerly, instead of at various centres far away from the lands in question." He also found the kistwar survey of Panditpur and Keshabpur to be wrong (*vide* paragraph 7 of his letter cited). The Survey Department ultimately asked me to make kistwar survey of Panditpur by the amins at the cost of Survey Department, but I could not comply, as it would then injuriously affect the sugarcane and jute crops on the ground, and reported to take it up in ensuing cold season (your letter No. 617, dated 22nd August 1895, forwarding Director's No. 2221S., dated 25th July 1895, and Commissioner's No. 389R., dated 3rd August 1895).

The preliminary attestation of 152 villages with 6,780 tenants, 45,565 fields, comprising an area 47·7 square miles, was completed in two and-a-half months from end of December 1894

*Exclusive apparently of the Settlement Officer's own pay.

W. C. M.

to beginning of March 1895, with a cost of Rs. 266-2-10.* The final attestation could not be finished owing to the necessity of the revision of kharanpuri as stated above. The mistakes found in the records are considerable. Mutation of the names of tenants is not made, and hence it requires time of the Settlement Officer to compare the existing rent and holdings. The final attestation of 47 villages with 1,839 tenants and 14,134 plots and 14·03 square miles was made before the procedure suggested by me was approved. As there are mistakes in them which could not be detected and rectified without adopting the procedure approved, they are not shown in the statements herewith submitted (*vide* paragraph 4 of Director's inspection note of 23rd August 1895).

There are, however, 11 villages of which final attestation has been shown in the statements, as 2 of them were revised and 9 corrected by me after enquiry. There are 354 tenants, 2,097 plots, and 4,651 standard bighas or 2·3 square miles finally attested. The statement No. 15 (4) about status submitted herewith will show the detailed particulars. The increase in the number of non-occupancy tenants is due to letting out relinquished holdings and jungles during the last 10 or 11 years. I submit an extract from Manager's letter No. 7, dated 13th April 1889, which also bears me out.

Notices required by Rule 19 of Chapter IV of the Government rules under the Bengal Tenancy Act about the 11 villages were issued just when the office closed for the recess.

7. The settlement of fair rent could not be taken up, as the records are not yet complete for the purpose.

8. There are 30 boundary disputes and 145 miscellaneous petitions disposed of during the year under report. The boundary disputes are taken up along with the final attestation of the villages to which they appertain. This procedure was adopted with the approval of the Commissioner of the Division, as it was thought not proper to take up the cases of villages at random.

9. No final publication made in any case during the year.

10. No progress made in assessment of land revenue, &c. Collection of rents is still being made at the old rates from the raiyats. There is no appeal yet against any of my orders.

11. Cost of survey and settlement is given below :—

DURING THE YEAR.		FROM THE BEGINNING.	
Survey.	Settlement.	Survey.	Settlement.
1	2	3	4
Rs.	Rs. 6,606	Rs. 12,625	Rs. 8,675

12. The survey and settlement is conducted on behalf of Government, and it is not intended to realise any part of it from tenants and others. I should note here that zamindars have applied for settlement of their share of the estates, and the applications have been submitted to you.

The last settlement expired on 31st March 1893. New rents have yet to be settled, so there is a loss of revenue till the new rents shall come into force.
W. C. M.

13. There is no failure to realise the estimate of land revenue made in forecast.

14. Records are not completed, and thus no arrangement made to keep the records up to date.

15. The boundary of the villages of the Jaipur Government estate is not yet finally settled, and thus no arrangement made for their maintenance.

16. I think I should note the following special points in this report :—

The preliminary attestation as well as the final attestation should be made separately. The difficulties which I experienced in doing the final attestation in this estate lead me to state that preliminary attestation should be made on the spot with tracing and khasra by muharrirs in the presence of a responsible officer, say a peshkar or Inspector. The khatian should be prepared after this attestation. At the time of this attestation parchas should be given to tenants on the spot who could know what are the plots entered in his name. This will, I am sure, make the final attestation very easy and simple. Again, this will entail considerably less cost and time than what is usually required, and also ensure the accuracy of the records as could be expected.

17. The Settlement Office was inspected by the Commissioner of the Division on 16th December 1894, and by Director of Land Records and Agriculture once on 30th April 1895 and again on 23rd August 1895. The Collector of the district has closely watched the work in January 1895 for several days at Khanjanpur. The remarks made and instructions given have all been carried out.

18. Under Rule 13, Chapter IV of the revised rules of Government, and with your approval deposit of cost for disposal of objection by local enquiry was taken. I give below a detailed account of the amount :—

NUMBER OF DEPOSITS.	Amount deposited.	Amount spent.	Balance.
1	2	3	4
14	Rs. A. P. 443 11 9	Rs. A. P. 85 10 7	Rs. A. P. 358 1 2

The deposit is in the Collectorate treasury. In obedience to your recent orders received after the Settlement Office was closed for recess, no further amount will be taken, and the parties were told to take back the balance of the amount deposited by them.

19. As instructed, a copy of the report with statements is submitted to the Director of Land Records and Agriculture direct.

Extract paragraph 25 from letter No. 7, dated the 13th April 1889, from the Manager of Jaipur Government Estates to the address of the Collector of Bogra.

25. * * * * * A glance at their (raiylats') homesteads is sufficient to convince one that they are a set of unsteady people. They have in fact very little desire to continue for a long time in one place. The soil of the estate is generally what is called pali land, of which the fertility is destroyed by continued cultivation. It is, perhaps, owing to this fact that the raiylats desert their holdings after using them for a few years and take up unreclaimed virgin soil at lower rates. * * * * *

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Khanapuri Work for the year ending 30th September 1895.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER EMPLOYED.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH KHANAPURI WORK WAS COMPLETED—				Number of villages of which kha-napuri is going on, but is incomplete.	Number of villages inspected by Revenue Officer during the month.	Number of amins inspected by Revenue Officer during the month.	Number of plots of which the khasra entries were tested during the month.	REMARKS.
				Up to end of the previous year.		During the year under report.						
				No.	Area in square miles.	No.	Area in square miles.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Babu Sarat Chandra Das	Jaipur Govern-ment estates.	157	55.5	157	55.5	(a) 55	18.78	7	41	16	2,528	(a) The figure shown in column 7 represents the number of villages the revision of kha-napuri of which has been made by Settlement Officer.

*Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Boundary Disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act
for the year ending 30th September 1895.*

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Number instituted from the beginning of the year (1st October), including cases pending on 30th September, to the end of the previous year.	Number instituted during the year.	Total.	Number disposed of to end of the previous year.	Number disposed of during the year.	Total.	Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT—						REMARKS.
								Instituted, including appeals pending from preceding year	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—				
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Babu Sarat Chandra Das	3	77	80	...	30	30	50	...	...	...	...	...		

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Attestation Work, including final publication of Records, for the year ending 30th September 1895.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	Number of villages for which records have been received from the Survey Department.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.				NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT- PUBLISHED—		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED—		REMARKS. (Here note adequacy of work done or cause of failure to work up to programme.)
					Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Babu Sarat Chandra Das.	Jaipur Government Estates.	157	55.5	157	...	...	...	...	11	2.3	354	2,097	...	...	...	...	

Settlement Officer's Annual Financial Statement for the year ending 30th September 1895.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment (against each sub-head).	Expenditure to end of the previous year (against each sub-head).	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head).	Balance remaining (against each sub-head).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
(1) Pay and special allowance of— Settlement Officer Assistant Settlement Officers...		Rs. A. P. 1,405 7 3	Rs. A. P. 2,970 0 0	Rs. A. P. 2,425 0 0	1. In the return for 1893-94 the total amount in column 3 was shown as Rs. 2,099-12-5. Amount, Rs. 31, about establishment drawn in October 1894 was included in it by mistake, and this is now corrected and Rs. 31 shown in column 4. 2. In 1893-94 there was an expenditure of Rs. 156-5-1, and this is shown in column 2. 3. Out of the total balance of Rs. 5,803-1-10, Rs. 49-10-10 represents balance of 1894-95, and the rest, Rs. 5,358-7, of 1895-96.
(2) Fixed establishment		226 11 11	822 3 1	191 15 5	
(3) Temporary establishment ... ..		.....	1,436 4 1	1,605 13 5	
(4) Contract and job work	1893-94 Rs. A. P. 156 5 1	.....	.....	.....	
(5) Travelling allowance— Of officers Of establishment... ..	1894-95 4,927 0 0 1895-96 9,000 0 0	.....	.....	.....	
(6) Supplies and services— Forms Tents Petty construction „ repairs	14,083 5 1	272 1 0 15 10 0	200 7 0 72 0 0 135 1 9 334 0 0 150 0 0 20 14 3	563 8 0 254 8 0 38 2 6 135 0 0 30 1 9	
(7) Contingencies— Hot-weather charges Office rent Service telegrams „ postage charges Miscellaneous		 148 14 3	 3 14 11 9 11 0 18 0 0 433 14 9	 26 1 1 4 8 0 45 0 0 83 7 8	
	14,083 5 1	2,068 12 5	6,606 6 10	5,408 1 10	

During the year.

	Rs. A. P.
I.—Pay and allowances (including travelling allowance) of Settlement Officer	3,179 7 0
II.—Pay and travelling allowance of Head Office establishment	894 3 1
III.—Khanapuri	871 3 0
IV.—Attestation	565 1 1
V.—Case-work ... ..	.....
VI.—Draft and final publication ... ..	.....
VII.—Copying and Terij Department ... ..	.....
VIII.—Miscellaneous	1,105 8 8

No. 15 (4).—Statement showing the status and rent of tenants as recorded in the khatians for the year ending 30th September 1895.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LANDS.						REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class.		Average area of cultivated lands per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per cultivated acre.	
1	2	3		4	5	6	7
		Cultivated.	Uncultivated.	Total.			
		B. K. CH.	B. K. CH.	B. K. CH.	B. K. CH.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1. Proprietor's sir (<i>nij foto</i>)	40	...	1,544 9 10	1,544 9 10	38 12 3	...	...
2. Held by proprietors, but not true sir		...	...	...	...	...	...
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders		...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents		...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Settled raiyats	183	1,710 16 12	399 4 11	2,110 1 7	31 2 5	1,216 6 3	6 9 2½
6. Occupancy raiyats	3	40 10 12	14 16 8	55 16 4	18 12 1	39 12 0	6 14 3½
7. Non-occupancy raiyats	118	640 16 10	323 16 11	963 12 5	7 18 6	505 3 6	0 8 7½
8. Rent-free holders	5	12 17 1	3 8 12	16 5 13	8 6 2½	...	...
Total	354	2,375 9 3	2,285 16 4	4,661 5 7	13 5 5	1,771 5 9	10 9 1½
Under-tenants	81	124 10 2	37 12 8	162 7 10	2 8 1½	...	...

* These are the lands covered by roads, ditches, tanks, jungles, &c., entered as khas in the name of Government in the khattian.

† This is the average rent of figures of headings 5, 6 and 7.

* These are the lands covered by roads, ditches, tanks, jungles, &c., entered as khas in the name of Government in the khatian.

† This is the average rent of figures of headings 5, 6 and 7.

APPENDIX VII.

No. 168, dated Barisal, the 20th September 1895.

From—BABU PYARI MOHAN BASU, Settlement Officer, Backergunge,
To—The Collector of Backergunge.

IN accordance with Circular No. 63S., dated 26th August 1895, from the Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal, I have the honour to submit the following report on the progress of survey and settlement of the several estates in the district of Backergunge for the year ending 30th September 1895.

2. *Government estates.*—The following Government estates in the district of Backergunge are under settlement according to the provisions of Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act :—

					Acres.
i.	Koralmara	...	...	...	1,730
ii.	Ganespura	...	...	...	2,854
iii.	Bairagia	...	...	...	4,638
iv.	Surplus accretion to Char Lakhi alias Padma Manasha	...	...	...	1,431
v.	Tushkhali	...	...	...	23,037
vi.	Heshamuddin	...	...	...	9,659
vii.	Char Nalgora	...	...	...	689
viii.	Char Ramesh	...	...	...	1,535
	Total	...	...	...	45,573

3. The final reports of (i) Koralmara and (ii) Ganespura were submitted by Mr. Dwija Das Datta, who was in charge of the settlement up to 1st September 1894. They are now pending with the Board of Revenue.

4. (iii) *Char Bairagia, No. 5216.*—Government notification for survey and settlement of this estate was issued on the 14th March 1890.

The total area of this estate according to the present survey is 14,032*b.* 18*k.* 3¼*c.*, or 4,163·76 acres, of which 8,680*b.* 13*k.* 2¼*c.* are comprised in seven howlas, and 5,352*b.* 5*k.* 1*c.* are held by 574 jotedars directly under Government. Mr. Dwija Das Datta, who was in charge of this settlement, settled rents of the tenants and published the records finally in March 1893; but on an appeal preferred by some of the jotedars, the proceedings of Mr. Datta were declared by the Special Judge as illegal and altogether void, on the ground that the notification issued under Rule 16 of the Government rules under the Tenancy Act was faulty. It being, however, found out that the Judge's order was passed on a misunderstanding, an application was made for a review of this order. This application was rejected by the Special Judge on 20th November 1894.

Fair rents of all the raiyats holding directly under Government have since then been settled amicably, and the records have been published finally. The net result of the present settlement showed an increase of Rs. 2,215-15-2 over the previous revenue of Rs. 9,773. The final report is ready for submission to higher authorities.

5. (iv) *Surplus accretion to Char Lakhi alias Padma Manasha.*—Final report for this settlement was submitted by Mr. Datta, and it was sanctioned by Board's No. 369, dated 28th February 1894, but on appeal the proceedings of Mr. Datta were declared by the Special Judge as illegal and irregular, and the case was remanded for doing the settlement work over again.

I have accordingly completely attested and revised the records, settled fair rents for the tenants, and published the draft records on 29th August 1895.

It is a temporarily-settled private estate containing, according to the present survey, a total area of 1,431·52 acres comprised in 1,336 plots. The lands are held by 3 osat talukdars, 8 howladars, 1 nim howladar, and 1 abadkari jotedar directly under the proprietors. Below these tenure-holders there are 124 raiyats.

6. (v) *Tushkhali Estate, No. 4642.*—The survey and settlement of this estate was ordered by Government Notification dated 10th December 1894. The survey work in this estate could not be commenced till middle of February on account of late supply of instruments by the Mathematical Instrument Department.

The estate comprises 23 villages. The survey and khanapuri have been finished for all the villages, and initial records have been prepared for 21 villages. The records of the remaining villages will be finished by the end of October 1895.

The total area, according to the present survey, is 23,037·04 acres comprised in 40,650 plots. The estimated number of tenants in the 23 villages is 4,801, including under-raiyats.

Permanent boundary marks have been put in all trijunctional points and on the important stations along the boundaries.

7. (vi) *Char Heshamaddin, No. 4656.*—It is an island char the property of Government. It comprises five villages. The Government notification for the survey and settlement of this estate was issued on 6th October 1894.

The estate has been surveyed by traverse and cadastrally by local amins under my supervision, and initial records have been completed for all the villages. The total area, according to the present survey, is 9,659·25 acres comprised in 13,910 plots, and the total number of tenants is 1,969, consisting of 31 tenure-holders, 1,054 raiyats, and 884 under-raiyats.

With the exception of the southern boundary of the village Shat hazar bigha and the western boundary of village Kazir char, which were disputed at the time of survey, all the important traverse stations along the boundaries have been marked with stone prisms. The boundary disputes have now been settled. Permanent marks will be put down on these two boundaries in the next cold weather.

8. (vii) *Char Nalgora, No. 5231.*—The settlement of this estate was ordered by Government Notification dated 27th July 1894.

It is a temporarily-settled private estate and its proprietary right belongs to the zamindars of Dakhin Shabazpur. It contains a total area of 668·99 acres held by 164 raiyats.

Fair rents have been settled for all raiyats, and the records were published finally on 27th August 1895. Notices have been issued to the proprietors under section 10, Regulation VII of 1822, to appear and to engage for the Government revenue.

The net Government revenue, according to the present settlement, is Rs. 2,312-9-3 against the previous revenue of Rs. 1,595-13-9, showing an increase of Rs. 716-11-6.

9. (viii) *Char Romesh, No. 6359.*—This estate was brought under survey and settlement by Government Notification dated 29th October 1894.

It is an island char in the river Tetulia, and its proprietary right belongs to Government. It was taken possession of on behalf of Government on 12th February 1894, and was farmed out for 10 years at a net jama of Rs. 72.

The total area according to the present survey is 4,648b. 16k. 6c. or 1,535 acres, of which 1,741b. 11k. 13c. (575 acres) consisting of khals and Kanchi Char are at present unfit for cultivation. 77b. 17k. 15c. of lands only were brought under cultivation during the farmer's time. The remaining assessable lands were, in accordance with the instructions of the Collector, settled with new raiyats, who executed kabulyats for the same. The rents fixed in the kabulyats were recorded in the khatians, which have been published finally on 10th August 1895. The net Government revenue, according to the present settlement, is Rs. 3,028-5-9. The estate has been kept under direct management, and the rents are being collected according to the conditions of the kabulyats from the current year. The final report of this settlement has been submitted to Collector.

WARDS' ESTATES.

10. *Dakhin Shabazpur Estates.*—Pargana Dhakhin Shabazpur comprises two estates, Nos. 1763 and 1764 of the Backergunge tauzi, the former comprising 12a. 18g. 1k. 2kt. and the latter 3a. 1g. 2k. 1kt. share of the entire pargana.

The pargana lost a large portion of its lands by diluvion. It now consists of 37 villages on the main land of the Dakhin Shabazpur island and 10 chars in the river Meghna, comprising a total area of 146·58 square miles, of which 125·66 square miles have been surveyed cadastrally. The total area of the main land according to Kelso's survey of 1847-48 was 172·49 square miles or 110,391 acres, and according to revenue survey of 1864-65, 167·60 square miles or 107,264 acres.

The number of plots surveyed is 174,476. So complicated and numerous are the grades of intermediate interests between the proprietors and the actual cultivators that it has been found necessary to repeat the plot entries in the tenure-holders' khatians as well as in the raiyats' khatians. The number of entries in the khatians therefore amounted to 489,736, or nearly three times the number of plots. The total number of tenants is 30,125, consisting of 5,647 tenure-holders, 21,681 raiyats, and 2,797 under-raiyats.

11. Out of the total number of 30,125 tenancies, fair rents have been fixed on application in respect of 7,839 tenancies, and in the case of 4,276 tenancies in which the rents were either unfair or uncertain, the rents were amicably arranged and entered in the column for "existing rent ascertained" with a remark that the rents have been arrived at by mutual agreement. There has been no alteration of rent with respect to the remaining 18,010, tenancies, but regarding most of them the rent was disputed and had to be determined.

12. Up to 30th September 1894 records were published finally in respect of all the chars and of 46 out of 47 villages. The work which remained to be done on 1st October 1894 was—

- i. The final publication of the khewat and of the records of one village.
- ii. Correction of the khasra of 101,523 plots.
- iii. Preparation of final terij of 10,000 tenancies.
- iv. Comparison of the copies of khatians of 12 villages comprising 340,857 entries.
- v. Apportionment and recovery of cost.
- vi. Preparation of the completion report.

Publication has been made of the khewat and the khatians of the remaining one village, and the correction of khasra, preparation of terij, and comparison of the copies have

also been completed. The records have now been got ready, and they are being made over to the Collectorate record-room.

13. Apportionment has been completed according to the scheme sanctioned by the revised Government order No. 2070L.R., dated 20th April 1895.

Out of the total cost to be realised under section 114, the amount expended in embedding stone on the survey stations and in the survey of the untenanted chars has been borne by the proprietors. The raiyat whose rent is below Rs. 10 paid 4 annas a khatian, and when the rent is Rs. 10 and over, he paid 8 annas a khatian. The rent-free holders paid at the rate of Re. 1 per acre. The balance was divided among the proprietors, tenure-holders, and under-tenure-holders at the rate of 2a. 9·02p. per rupee of gross assets. The statement given below will show the detail of calculations :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Actual cost of survey and settlement operation up to September 1895	96,772	7	2
Add unexpended balance of the cost of the completion of the operation, including cost of apportionment and recovery	829	11	2
Add contribution towards the supervision by the Director and his establishment	1,551	0	0
Add rent of houses and cost of furniture supplied by the Manager, <i>vide</i> Board's No. 1236A., dated 14th November 1891	*326	11	0
	99,479	13	4
Deduct—			
	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount recovered on account of court fees, process fees	18,118	14	0†
Contribution towards traverse survey, <i>vide</i> India Government order No. $\frac{2309}{120-2}$, dated 8th August 1895	3,114	0	0
Price of forms, &c., sold to private parties	284	8	6
	21,517	6	6
Balance	77,962	6	10
Deduct amount to be paid entirely by the proprietors—			
On account of cost of embedding stones	1,375	0	0
On account of untenanted chars	949	0	0
	2,324	0	0
Balance	75,638	6	8
Deduct—			
The amount payable by raiyats	6,864	4	0
The amount payable by rent-free holders	1,621	8	0
	8,485	12	0
Balance apportioned among the proprietors, tenure-holders, and under-tenure-holders	67,152	10	10

* This amount has been included in the account in accordance with Board's order by way of book transfer.

† A further sum of Rs. 93·14 has been realised in August and September 1895.

In the case of tenure-holders and under-tenure-holders the amounts paid by them shall, in most cases, be recouped in two to three years by the increased assets obtained by the settlement.

Out of the total demand of Rs. 77,962-6-10 shown above, a sum of Rs. 35,500-12-3 has been realised during the year under report.

14. Copies of khatians have been given to those who have paid their cost. In addition to one copy of khatian distributed to tenants free of cost, one complete set of copies of the maps and the records has been taken at their own cost by the proprietors of estate No. 1763 and another set of copies by the proprietors of estate No. 1764, and most of the tenure-holders and under-tenure-holders have received and paid for copies of the detailed khatians of their inferior tenants. The eagerness thus shown by the public for taking copies at their expense is a sure test of the value attached to the records.

15. The work which remained to be done at the end of the year is—

- i. To make over the records to the collectorate record-room.
- ii. To recover Rs. 42,461-10-7 due on account of cost of the operation. The whole of it, it is expected, will be realised by the end of December 1895.
- iii. The final report which has been partly written will be submitted shortly.

SERAMPUR ESTATES.

16. Pargana Serampur comprises zamindari Baidya Nath Mitra No. 3574 and two kharija taluks, Nos. 3575 and 3613, called respectively Abu Rabiulla and Fatema Khanam. Survey and settlement of these estates were undertaken under the sanction conveyed in the Board's letter No. 133A., dated 23rd January 1893.

These estates comprise nine villages, eight of which are situated in thana Mehendigunge and one in the island of Dakhin Shabazpur. The total area of these nine villages is 6,086 acres surveyed in 13,983 plots.

17. Mr. Dwija Das Datta, who was in charge of the survey up to 1st September 1894, began survey in December 1893 and finished the survey of 5,877 acres. He also attested records of two small villages with an area of 278 acres comprised in 81 khatians. The survey was found to be so incomplete and defective that it was found necessary to resurvey six of these villages.

18. Up to the end of September 1895 records in all the villages have been attested and fair rents have been settled in the two villages in which applications have been made except for one tenancy. Records have been published in draft in respect of eight villages and finally in respect of four villages.

19. The total number of tenants in the nine villages is 2,215, consisting of 1,644 raiyats, 569 under-raiyats and 2 rent-free-holders. There is no tenure. Many raiyats had lost a portion of their lands by diluvion, and many raiyats transferred portions of their holdings to others when the proprietors refused to recognise. The rents of the raiyats were, therefore, in almost all cases, disputed and had to be determined.

20. The work remaining to be done at the end of the year was—

- (i) To publish the records in draft in respect of one village and finally in respect of five villages.
- (ii) To prepare copies of records and to compare them.
- (iii) To apportion and to recover cost of settlement.
- (iv) To prepare and to submit the final report.

The total cost incurred up to the end of September 1895 was Rs. 6,761-13-5, or Re. 1-1-9 per acre.

PRIVATE ESTATES.

21. *Chiknikandi*.—Chiknikandi is one of the thakbust holkas which comprises seven villages near the Bay of Bengal. The survey and settlement of these villages were undertaken in accordance with Government Notification No. 1042L.R., dated 25th February 1895, issued under section 101, sub-section 2(b), with a view to avert serious disputes existing between the landlords and the tenants.

These seven villages comprise lands of kharija taluks Nos. 1725, 1726, 1727, 3567 and 1636 of the Backergunge tauzi appertaining to three different parganas, viz., mauzas Kalaraja, Khotekhali, Jaralbaria, and Majgram comprised in taluks Nos. 1725, 1726 and 1727 of pargana Chandradwip-Kachna in taluks Nos. 1725 and 1727 of pargana Chandradwip, Matbaria in taluks Nos. 1725, 1726 and 1727 of pargana Chandradwip, No. 3567 of pargana Sultanabad and mauza Chiknikandi in taluks Nos. 1725, 1726 and 1727 of pargana Chandradwip, No. 3567 of pargana Sultanabad, and No. 1636 of pargana Buzrag Umedpur.

22. The original talukdars privately divided the lands of these villages into 7-anna, 8½-anna and ½-anna shares. In making this partition they allowed the lands of the three parganas to be mixed up, and some of the sharers obtained more lands in one village and less or none in others. The papers relating to this partition, which was made before 1165B.S., are not forthcoming. Thus, while this partition gave rise to most awful complications of interests, it has now become a very fruitful source of disputes among the numerous proprietors who own these taluks in very small shares. Some of the proprietors, or at least the stronger ones among them, are claiming a full share of lands in villages in which they had only a small amount of lands or none at all.

23. As Government order was received late, the survey work could not be commenced till middle of March. The villages are low, jungly, and intersected by numerous khals, and the proprietors against whose wishes the operation was undertaken did not co-operate. The progress of work was therefore very much retarded. The survey and khanapuri had, however, been finished with great difficulty by the end of July.

24. The total area according to the present survey is 3,486.60 acres and the number of plots surveyed is 3,620 but the interests of the proprietors and those of the numerous grades of intermediate tenure-holders are so extremely complicated and the disputes raised by them are so numerous that the initial records could not be completed up to date for any of the villages. Dispute lists have been filed by the amins for about 1,500 plots. They will be taken up by me on the spot in the cold weather. The estimated number of tenants is 1,030, including 393 tenure-holders.

The total cost incurred up to September 1895 amounted to Rs. 1,385-7.

25. *Ulonia taluks*.—The Ulonia taluks were brought under survey and settlement under the Bengal Tenancy Act on the application of the patnidars and darpatnidars by Government Notification dated 29th February 1892.

26. The taluks contain 31 villages comprising a total area of 9,455 acres or 14·77 square miles. The total number of tenants including under-raiyats is 2,998. Mr. Dwija Das Datta was in charge of the operation. He began work in April 1892, and submitted final report in July 1894. The records, however, could not be got ready before he left the district in September 1894.

27. The correction of khasra, testing of terij, comparison of the copies, and the apportionment of the cost, which remained to be done at the end of September 1894, have been finished during the year under report.

28. The total cost of the operation, including the establishment for apportion and recovery, and the contribution towards the supervision by the Director of the Department of Land Records, amounted to Rs 18,125-11-3. From this amount was deducted Rs. 1,733-5 realised on account of court-fees, Rs. 278-6 realised by sale of instruments purchased for the work, leaving a balance of Rs. 16,114-0-3 to be apportioned and recovered under section 114.

A scheme for apportionment was sanctioned by Government order No. 503L.R., dated 24th January 1895, according to which Rs. 3,000 out of Rs. 16,114-0-3 was borne entirely by the talukdars as cost of litigation, and the balance was apportioned among the talukdars, under-tenure-holders, and raiyats at an acreage rate. The net result was as follows:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount payable by talukdars in respect of 97 tenures and under-tenures held by them ...	7,732	7	3
Add cost of litigation to be borne entirely by them	3,000	0	0
Total amount payable by talukdars ...	10,732	7	3
Amount payable in respect of 219 under-tenures held by persons other than talukdars ...	1,141	9	0
Amount payable by 2,239 raiyats ...	4,240	0	0
Total amount recoverable ...	16,114	0	3

Out of the above, a sum of Rs. 7,003-12-9 has been realised during the year under report. The talukdars have applied for permission to pay the amount due from them by instalments extending over three years.

29. *Settlement of petty Government estates under the old Regulations.*—Besides the settlement under the Bengal Tenancy Act I have charge of all settlements under the old Regulations in the district of Backergunge. The following statement will show the amount of work done in connection with these settlements during the year ending 30th September 1895:—

Estates of which settlement was pending on 1st October 1894.		Estates brought under settlement during the year.		Total number of estates under settlement.		Settlement completed and sanctioned by higher authorities.		Settlement completed but not yet sanctioned by higher authorities.		Estates in which settlement work is going on.		REMARKS.
Num-ber.	Area in acres.	Num-ber.	Area in acres.	Num-ber.	Area in acres.	Num-ber.	Area in acres.	Num-ber.	Area in acres.	Num-ber.	Area in acres.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	14,409	54	36,467	66	50,876	26	15,832	13	24,325	27	10,719	

30. Out of 26 settlements completed during the year, 6 were done by me and the rest were completed by Babu Akhil Chandra Ray, Assistant Settlement Officer, under my supervision. I inspected many of his settlements, and all his reports passed through me. In addition to the heavy work in his hands, Babu Akhil Chandra Ray rendered material assistance to me in issuing copies of records. He also inspected the survey and the khanapuri work when out in the interior in connection with petty settlements.

No. ^{1733L.R.}_{V.—10}, dated Backergunge, the 21st September 1895.

Memo. by—H. LEMESURIER, Esq., Officiating Collector of Backergunge.

FORWARDED in original to the Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Khanapuri Work.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER EMPLOYED.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH KHANA- PURI WORK WAS COMPLETED—				Number of villages of which khanapuri is going on but is in- complete.	Number of villages inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of amins inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of plots of which the khasra entries were tested during the year.	REMARKS.		
				Up to end of the previous year.		During the year.								
				Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
Babu Pyari Mohan Basu, Settlement Officer.	Tushkhali ... Heshamaddin Char Romesh ... Nalgora ... Bairagia ... Padmananasha	23	35.99			23	35.99		23	33	40,650			
		5	15.09	.....	.....	5	15.09	.....	5	17	13,910			
		1	2.40	.....	.....	1	2.40	.....	1	2	90			
		1	1.05	.....	.....	1	1.05	.....	1	1	1,145			
		1	7.25	.....	7.25	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....			
		1	2.24	1	2.24	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....			
		32	64.02	2	9.49	30	54.53	.....	32	53	55,795			
		Dakhin Sha- bazpurestate. Serampur estate.	47	146.58	47	146.58								13,988
			9	9.13	9	9.13				9	13			
							PRIVATE ESTATES.							
	Chiknikandi	7	5.45			7	5.45		7	6	3,620			

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of boundary disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	From the beginning of the year (1st October), including cases pending on 30th September, to the end of the previous year.	Number instituted during the year.	Total.	Number disposed of to end of the previous year.	Number disposed of during the year.	Total.	Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT—					REMARKS.
								Instituted, including appeals pending from preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Babu Pyari Mohan Basu, Settlement Officer.	...	7	7	...	6	GOVERNMENT ESTATE.		...	...	...	...	..	
						WARDS' ESTATES.							
						Nil.							
						PRIVATE ESTATE.							
						Nil.							

Statement Officer's Annual Return of Attestation Work, including final publication of records.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of Circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	Number of villages for which records have been got ready for attestation.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.				NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT-PUBLISHED—		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED—		REMARKS. (Here note adequacy of work done or cause of failure to work up to programme.)
					Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Babu Pyari Mohan Basu, Settlement Officer.	GOVERNMENT ESTATES.																
	Tushkhali ...	23	35.99	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Heshamaddin ...	5	15.09	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Char Romesh ...	1	2.40	1	...	...	...	...	1	2.40	59	90	...	1	...	...	1
	Nalgora ...	1	1.05	1	...	...	...	...	1	1.05	164	1,145	...	1	...	...	1
	Bairagia ...	1	7.25	1	1	7.25	1,262	10,251	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
	Padmamanaasha ...	1	2.24	1	...	...	...	...	1	2.24	139	1,336	...	1	...	...	...
		32	64.02	30	1	7.25	1,262	10,261	3	5.69	362	2,571	...	4	...	...	3
	WARDS' ESTATES.																
	Dakhin Shahbazpur estates.	47	146.58	47	47	146.58	30,125	174,678	...	...	...	...	47	...	46	...	1
	Serampur estates	9	9.13	9	2	43	81	603	7	8.70	1,564	13,385	...	8	...	...	4
	PRIVATE ESTATES.																
	Chiknikandi ...	7	5.45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Objections under section 105 and disputes under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Nature of case.	Number instituted up to the end of the previous year, including cases pending on 30th September of previous year.	Number instituted during the year.	Total.	Number disposed of to end of the previous year.	Number disposed of during the year.	Total.	Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT—					REMARKS. (State grounds on which decisions have been appealed against and summarise orders of courts of appeal.)	
									Instituted, including appeals pending on 30th September of preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—				
											Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
Babu Pyari Mohan Basu, Settlement Officer.					GOVERNMENT ESTATES.										
	(1) Objections heard and considered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act.	...	437	437	...	409	409	28	...	...	...	.....	...		
	(2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	...	7	7	...	6	6	1	...	...	...	.....	...		
	(3) Execution of decrees	...	3	3	...	3	3	...	...	...	...	.....	...		
		...	447	447	...	418	418	29	...	...	...	...	...		
					WARDS' ESTATES.										
	(1) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	304	...	304	304	...	304	...	4	3	2	1	...		
	(2) Execution of decrees	3	6	9	...	9	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
					Sorampur Estates.										
	(1) Objections heard and considered.	...	113	113	...	113	113	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	The pending cases were instituted towards the close of the year.
	(2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	...	9	9	...	2	2	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	

Settlement Officer's Annual Financial Statement.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment (against each sub-head).	Expenditure to end of the previous year (against each sub-head).	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head).	Balance remaining (against each sub-head).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
GOVERNMENT ESTATES.					
1. Pay and special allowance of—	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Settlement Officer ...	...	7,613 3 14	1,990 8 11	...	
2. Fixed establishment ...	...	5,728 14 9	701 15 11	...	
3. Temporary establishment ...	...	190 4 2	1,514 0 9	...	
4. Contract and job work ...	...	895 0 2	6,694 4 4	...	
5. Travelling allowance—					
Of officers ...	...	2,238 14 6	622 8 0	...	
Of establishment ...	...	694 2 0	357 7 6	...	
6. Supplies and services ...	45,105 0 9	...	16 12 9	11,939 15 7	
Forms ...	...	...	...	...	
7. Contingencies—					
Hot-weather charges ...	...	...	...	...	
Office rent ...	...	...	...	...	
Service telegrams ...	...	2,833 9 5	1,073 8 1	...	
" postage charges	...	...	...	...	
&c. &c. &c.	...	...	...	...	
	45,105 0 9	20,194 0 11	12,971 0 3	11,939 15 7	
DAKHIN SHABAZPUR ESTATES.					
1. Pay and special allowance of—					
Settlement Officer ...	...	18,280 7 8	1,277 12 10	...	
2. Fixed establishment ...	...	15,904 1 5	4,271 0 7	...	
3. Temporary ditto ...	...	3,930 0 5	1,292 15 2	...	
4. Contract and job work ...	...	...	...	...	
5. Travelling allowance—					
Of officers ...	...	5,024 11 0	25 8 0	843 7 3	
Of establishment ...	...	...	...	...	
6. Supplies and services—					
Forms ...	...	...	...	...	
Tents ...	...	2,652 10 10	16 6 10	...	
Fetty construction ...	...	...	...	...	
" repairs ...	...	...	...	...	
7. Contingencies—					
Hot-weather charges ...	...	...	...	...	
Office rent ...	...	1,698 1 4	779 1 5	...	
Service telegrams ...	...	...	...	...	
" postage charges	...	...	...	...	
&c. &c. &c.	...	...	...	...	
	55,996 7 9	47,490 0 8	7,662 12 10	843 7 3	

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment (against each sub-head).	Expenditure to end of the previous year (against each sub-head).	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head).	Balance remaining (against each sub-head).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
SERAMPUR ESTATES.					
1. Pay and special allowance of—					
Settlement Officer	...	230 0 0	801 7 9	...	
2. Fixed establishment	...	635 12 4	381 12 2	...	
3. Temporary ditto	...	...	286 15 9	...	
4. Contract and job work	...	996 1 0	679 15 3	...	
5. Travelling allowance—					
Of officers	...	532 12 0	211 2 0	...	
Of establishment	...	120 8 0	137 0 0	...	
6. Supplies and services—					
Forms	...	...	132 11 2	...	
7. Contingencies—					
Hot-weather charges	...	...	...	...	
Office rent	...	314 0 7	251 11 5	...	
Service telegrams	...	...	...	...	
“ postage charges	...	...	...	...	
&c. &c. &c.	...	...	...	...	
	8,567 0 0	3,879 1 11	2,882 11 6	1,805 2 7	
CHIKNIKANDI.					
1. Pay and special allowance of—					
Settlement Officer	...	...	240 14 1	...	
2. Fixed establishment	...	...	57 9 8	...	
3. Temporary ditto	...	...	245 0 3	...	
4. Contract and job work	...	...	513 4 1	...	
5. Travelling allowance—					
Of officers	...	...	71 10 0	...	
Of establishment	...	...	43 2 0	...	
6. Supplies and services—					
Forms	...	...	44 0 0	...	
7. Contingencies—					
Hot-weather charges	...	...	...	...	
Office rent	...	...	151 14 10	...	
Service telegrams	...	...	...	...	
“ postage charges	...	...	...	...	
&c. &c. &c.	...	...	...	...	
	2,933 12 0	Nil	1,385 6 11	1,554 5 1	

Statement to be used in annual reports showing the status and rent of tenants as recorded in the khatians from commencement of the year under report.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LANDS.					REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class.	Average area of cultivated lands per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per cultivated acre.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
GOVERNMENT ESTATES.						
1. Proprietor's sir (sir jote)	...	...	...	...	...	The statement relates to the following Government estates:— (1) Char Romesh, (2) Char Nalgora, (3) Padmamansha and (4) Bairagia. Most of the howladars partly sublet and partly themselves cultivate their lands, but do not pay the rent of the khas lands separately. Hence columns 5 and 6 could not be filled up.
2. Held by proprietors, but not true sir	...	...	...	...	...	
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders	16	266.71	7.62	...	...	
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents	...	...	...	...	...	
5. Settled raiyats	161	885.41	5.39	3,192 0 6	3 9 8	
6. Occupancy raiyats	1,215	3,986.25	3.19	14,399 4 10	3 9 9	
7. Non-occupancy raiyats	179	1,303.25	11.13	6,279 11 3	3 2 5	
8. Rent-free holders	...	...	...	...	...	
Total	1,605	7,131.62	...	23,871 0 7	...	

Statement to be used in Annual Reports showing the status and rent of tenants as recorded in the khatians from commencement of the year under report.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LANDS.					REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class.	Average area of cultivated lands per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per cultivated acre.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
		DAKHIN SHARAPUR ESTATES.				
1. Proprietor's sir (nij jote)	...	...	...	...	...	
2. Held by proprietors, but not true sir.	...	...	...	...	...	
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders.	3,627	12,629 30	3 48	...	...	Most of the howladars partly sublet and partly themselves cultivate their lands, but do not pay the rent of the khas lands separately. Hence columns 5 and 6 could not be filled up.
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents	19,409	45 627 07	2 30	1,61,015 4 2	3 8 6	
5. Settled raiyats	1,497	3,915 17	2 61	30,946 13 0	3 10 1	
6. Occupancy raiyats	775	1,329 08	1 71	5,285 1 0	3 45 1	
7. Non-occupancy raiyats	479	351 22	60	...	...	
8. Rent-free holders	...	...	...	...	...	
Total ...	25,787	62,981 84	10 36	3,45,507 10 1	...	
		SEERAMPUR ESTATES.				
1. Proprietor's sir (nij jote)	...	...	...	...	...	
2. Held by proprietors, but not true sir.	37	127 31	3 44	...	...	Most of the howladars partly sublet and partly themselves cultivate their lands, but do not pay the rent of the khas lands separately. Hence columns 5 and 6 could not be filled up.
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders.	...	...	...	...	...	
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents	1	4 21	4 21	16 10 6	3 14 0	
5. Settled raiyats	1,482	4,632 81	3 13	21,052 13 9	4 5 2	
6. Occupancy raiyats	110	39,442	3 59	1,920 14 5	4 8 0	
7. Non-occupancy raiyats	14	18 27	1 31	90 2 2	5 4 2	
8. Rent-free holders	2	2 36	1 18	...	...	
Total ...	1,646	5,179 38	...	23,986 7 10	...	

APPENDIX VIII.

No. 502, dated Muzaffarpur, the 27th October 1895.

From—P. C. LYON, Esq., c.s., Settlement Officer, Muzaffarpur,
To—The Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith my Annual Report on the settlement operations in the district of Muzaffarpur for the year commencing on 1st October 1894 and ending on 30th September 1895.

1. *Notifications.*—The area taken up by the Survey Department in the course of the year was brought within the scope of Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act by notifications Nos. 737T.R., dated 11th October 1894, and 5264L.R., dated 27th November 1894, published in the issues of the *Calcutta Gazette* dated 17th October and 28th November 1894 respectively. The work done by the Settlement Department in attesting and completing records was confined to areas which had been previously notified. The whole of the Muzaffarpur district has now been brought under the Act.

2. *Programme.*—The programme of work set out for the Settlement Department in the past years was:—

- (a) The attestation of the records for the area in which record-writing had been completed by the survey staff in the field season of 1893-94, about 758 square miles.
- (b) The supervision of khanapuri and the decision of boundary disputes in an area of 1,367 square miles in which records were to be written by the survey establishments in the course of the year.
- (c) The completion of the records attested in 1893-94 and the disposal of objections, disputes, and applications for the settlement of fair rents, in the area attested in the field season of 1894-95, under head (A).

3. In order to carry out this heavy tale of work I received the assistance of 17 officers at various times and for various periods, as detailed in statement A attached to this report. Nine officers were constantly employed on attestation work, and two on khanapuri inspection and the investigation of boundary disputes. One officer was engaged throughout the year in case work at head-quarters, while Mr. Phillimore after six weeks' work in the settlement of diara villages became Assistant Settlement Officer in charge under me on my taking up the work in Saran and Champaran, and devoted himself to inspection and general supervision work. A third khanapuri officer, Babu Khettra Bhusan Prosad, was on medical leave for three months, and Mr. C. A. Bell, who came as an extra officer for training in settlement work, was transferred to Motihari as Assistant Settlement Officer in charge after about six weeks' work in this district. No officer was appointed to succeed Mr. Phillimore when he went on leave at the beginning of May, and early in July I was also deprived of the services of Mr. Datta, who went on leave. It was not until the middle of August that the appointment of Mr. Hughes as Assistant Settlement Officer in charge again restored my staff to its proper strength. Mr. Rowland Nagendra Lal Chandra was transferred to strengthen the Gaya staff shortly after he had commenced work on attestation in November 1894. Mr. F. F. Lyall and Mr. E. Lister, Assistant Magistrates at Muzaffarpur, were both deputed to learn settlement work in camp for short periods during the field season. Mr. Lister had only recently come out to India, and was consequently unable to take up any original work, but Mr. Lyall gave the Department some valuable assistance in the inspection of khanapuri and in investigations into boundary disputes.

4. *Record-writing.*—The programme under this head which was undertaken by the Survey Department in the past year was a very heavy one, and we are much indebted to Captain Crichton for the energy with which the work was pushed on and completed within the year. Mr. Hanby in the southern camp had a very large area to deal with, composed partly of arrears of khanapuri left from both camps in the previous year, a small area of new work, and the whole of the area in which the experimental survey of 1885-86 was conducted, the records of which had to be revised. In addition to this area, which in itself contained 1,142 villages and 841 square miles, Mr. Hanby had to carry out the survey of the municipality of Muzaffarpur. The field work of this camp was carried through and practically completed during the year, the two villages shown as in arrears being now in hand, but the recess work has proved very heavy and complicated, and it has been found impossible to complete the records before the commencement of the present field season. The consequence has been some disturbance of our arrangements for attestation, but every effort is being made to carry the work through and to let us have the records with the least possible delay. Unfortunately Mr. Hanby has recently suffered so seriously from ill-health that he has been compelled to take sick leave, and will not, I believe, return to the charge of a cadastral camp. The loss of his experienced and careful supervision of the writing of our records will be much felt.

Mr. Kraal, in charge of the northern survey camp, had a compact area of about 525 square miles with 505 villages to deal with. Three of his villages remain to be completed this season, but the rest of the work was completed without difficulty, and I have reason to

believe that the work done was of a better quality than that done by this camp in the previous season.

5. Owing to constant changes in my staff of Assistant Settlement Officers the inspections of record-writing by Revenue Officers was somewhat intermittent, and was less thorough and continuous than I could have wished. Babu Chinta Haran Chatterji was in charge at first of the whole of Mr. Kraal's area, but was subsequently relieved of the western half of it by Mr. Bell in January, who again was relieved by Mr. Warburton, on being appointed Assistant Settlement Officer in charge at Motihari.

Mr. S. S. Day and Babu Khetro Bhushan Prashad were originally appointed for supervision work in Mr. Hanby's area, but the latter had to take medical leave for three months early in the field season, and only returned from leave shortly before its close. And Mr. Day was detained under my orders in one Inspector's circle for nearly the whole season, the circle in question being one in which khanapuri was extremely difficult, a large number of small land-owners being specially strong and unscrupulous, and the raiyats more than usually weak. The consequence was that in this area there were a great number of disputes, and many villages also in which khanapuri had to be proceeded with most cautiously to ensure that the raiyats who were known to be cultivating the fields might be given every opportunity of coming forward to claim their rights.

Throughout a large portion of Mr. Hanby's area, therefore, there was but little regular inspection of khanapuri by Revenue officers, but Mr. Phillimore, Mr. Lyall, Babu Khetro Bhushan Prashad and I all made tours of inspection through it at different times in the year.

6. *Boundary disputes.*—The work under this head was not so heavy as in the previous year, although the area in which record-writing was being done was much more extensive. This was partly due to the fact that many villages had already been surveyed in advance in the previous season, and also to the comparative rarity of these disputes in the area which had been dealt with by the experimental survey in 1885-86. Out of 376 boundary disputes filed, as against 593 filed in 1893-94, about 200 were filed in the smaller area entrusted to Mr. Kraal, and were disposed of by Mr. Bell, Mr. Warburton, and Babu Chinta Haran Chatterji. Since the commencement of our operations, 1,267 of these disputes have been filed, of which 1,243 have been dealt with and 24 are pending.

7. There has been some criticism of the rules under which boundary disputes are dealt with, both in the public press and elsewhere, during the year, and in a case which came before the Additional Commissioner of Patna some few months ago that officer expressed his opinion that our procedure should be more formal and our record more detailed. As regards that particular case, the report on which the decision of the Settlement Officer was based was most unfortunately brief, and did not do justice to the exhaustive local enquiry that had been made by the Assistant Settlement Officer, who was its author. The case being an important one as far as such cases go, I had deputed an especially careful and experienced Deputy Collector to make the local enquiry as to possession on the ground. That officer made a prolonged and elaborate enquiry on the ground, going over the whole line in dispute, and occupying himself with the case for two full days. Unfortunately, however, this particular Assistant Settlement Officer is not a ready penman, and put up a very meagre account of his enquiry which would not have been accepted by me, even though I was fully aware of the nature of the work that had actually been done, had I not had every reason to know that my summary decision under the Bengal Survey Act would not be of the slightest value in determining the question, which was already the subject of litigation in the Civil Courts, and which would inevitably be dealt with fully and finally by a superior Court within a very short time. As I propose to explain below, my decision could have no weight in the future except as collateral evidence of actual possession, and I know well, from the nature of the enquiry that had been made, that I had very good grounds for accepting the report of the Assistant Settlement Officer as correct on that point. The fact is that when boundary disputes are taken up under Part V of Act V of 1875, in connection with areas which are being also notified for survey, and the preparation of a record of rights under Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act, the preliminary decisions as to boundaries by the Collector are even of less value, as permanent determinations of their boundaries, than when the survey is confined to work under the Survey Act. The decision come to is not only immediately appealable to a Civil Court, but it is liable to revision by the Collector himself, who in these cases is the Settlement Officer, under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act. Under that section the Settlement Officer must try the boundary dispute all over again with all the forms of a civil suit, hearing witnesses on oath, examining all documentary evidence, etc., and recording his decision in full. And that decision will be appealable to the Special Judge and from him to the High Court. The decision under the Survey Act becomes, therefore, nothing more valuable than a summary order on the dispute list prepared at the time of the record-writing, an instruction as to how the draft of the boundary line shall be entered until a competent Court shall determine how it is to run, and I think I am right in holding that it would be unfair to those who dispute boundaries at this stage to involve them in all the expense consequent on litigation carried on with the formality of civil suits and unfair to those who have to pay the cost of our proceedings to largely increase the cost of these preliminary enquiries.

8. In this view I think I am justified both by the fact that the rules under which the boundary disputes are dealt with in North Bihar have been adopted for general use in the draft Survey and Settlement Manual recently prepared by Mr. E. W. Collin, and also by the

success that has hitherto accompanied our enquiries under the Survey Act. The figures of appeals in Gaya, Sarat and Champaran are even more favourable than those in Muzaffarpur, so I have no hesitation in giving the statistics entered in statement D attached to this report in support of our action. The appellate authority is the Collector of the district, who holds his Court in close proximity to the Settlement office, and the Court-fee on an appeal to him in such cases is only eight annas, and yet only 71 appeals have been lodged against 1,243 decisions, and out of 67 appeals decided only two have resulted in a reversal of the original orders passed by the Settlement Officer. This means that only one decision in every 20 is appealed against, and one decision in every 600 reversed.

9. The fact is that these disputes are in the great majority of cases raised about small strips of waste land, or small patches of cultivation, where one party suspects the other of having encroached on his property. Both parties wish nothing better than that a competent officer of Government should be deputed, at no expenses to themselves, to go over the ground, hear all they have to say, and come to a summary decision. His decision as to possession is rarely assailable, and is generally acknowledged to be correct, and in the result we deal with a boundary dispute effectively, satisfactorily, and finally by our methods, which would grow into prolonged litigation, draining the pockets of both parties, if our procedure were to be rendered more cumbrous, and if we compelled the disputants to seek professional advice.

10. *Attestation.*—Considerable progress was made in this work during the year. The area of 758 square miles, containing 1,374 villages, was divided out among nine camps. Eight of these camps commenced work on 19th October 1894, but the opening of the ninth camp was delayed until 28th November, from the want of an Assistant Settlement Officer to preside in it. The work of one of these camps was completed on 18th March, three others closed later in the same month, and two more in April, while two camps were unable to get through their programmes before the first week in May. In camp IX, owing to the late start made, the work dragged on until 22nd May. Babu Siva Sankar Singh's camp turned out the best work, but Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta's camp and that of Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur, both situated in difficult areas, did well. In my last Annual Report I had occasion to comment somewhat severely on the quality of some of the khanapuri work which had been done that year, and my comments were justified this year by the rejection of the records of no less than five villages, which had to be returned for the preparation of fresh records to the Survey Department, and by the discovery of very serious mistakes in other records, all within the area indicated by me.

There were as usual some small areas, and at the close of the season 13 villages, covering 11 square miles, were left for attestation in the present year. The postponement of the work in each of these villages was inevitable, and was due to causes beyond our control.

The camps were out on an average for 5½ months each, and completed the attestation of 1,130,745 plots at the average rate of 22,000 a month. I doubt whether a faster average rate than this is consistent with proper care and accuracy in a district like Muzaffarpur, in which the difficulties encountered in the preparation of a correct record are so great, and the disputes to be dealt with are so keenly contested and prolonged. The total work done under this head in the district amounts to 2,393 villages covering 1,188 square miles, and during the present year we hope to attest 1,655 villages covering 1,364 square miles, thus leaving 500 square miles of the district to be attested in 1896-97.

11. *Settlement of fair rents.*—Excluding the work done by Mr. Phillimore in Government estates in the Hajipur diara, there were 24 applications pending at the commencement of the year, 429 new applications were presented, and 435 disposed of, leaving 18 cases pending at the close of the year. Two thousand six hundred and forty-six tenants were involved in the applications disposed of, and their rents were raised from Rs. 27,887 to Rs. 31,545. An analysis of the cases shows that of the total enhancement granted, Rs. 3,535 were given on the ground of an increase in area, and only 123 on the ground that the rates of rent at which the defendants held were lower than the prevailing rate of the village concerned.

The total percentage of increase was 13.1, on a rental of Rs. 27,887, out of a total rental of perhaps 10 lakhs of rupees attested as "existing rent."

The number of tenants involved in 71 cases withdrawn before trial, and the rental of those tenants, have not been included in the figures in statement G.

The total enhancement since the commencement of our operations has been Rs. 4,292 on a former rental of Rs. 51,492, or a percentage of 8.33. The comparatively high percentage in the past year is due to the fact that applications have been more carefully backed by evidence in contested cases, and that more of the cases have been compromised.

12. Of the applications presented during the year, 9 were put in by tenants, 111 by European indigo-planters, and 296 by native zamindars. Of the applications put in by indigo-planters, 69 were subsequently withdrawn as having been filed by mistake for very small claims. The work was disposed of chiefly by Babu Charu Chander Kumar and Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta, who took the applications up in camp at various centres, as near to the villages concerned as was feasible, and it was disposed of on the same lines as the similar work in Champaran, of which I have given an account in my report for that district. I have little to add to my remarks on the subject of these cases, as quoted by Government in the Resolution on the last Settlement Department Report. I have attempted throughout this past year's operations to carry out my reading of the sections which govern the grant of enhancements or reductions for increase or decrease of area. But it remains to be seen whether the line we have taken is approved by the appellate Courts, and whether we shall be

permitted in the future to grant enhancements and reductions of rent without insisting on proof of encroachment or of diminution of area in specific plots and within specific boundaries.

13. In addition to the work noted above some settlements of rents were made in a few Government villages in the diara, and the rents of 595 tenants in those villages were raised from Rs. 1,487 to Rs. 2,847. This apparently heavy enhancement of 91·64 per cent. was, however, purely fictitious, as the farmers of the villages and raiyats had colluded and caused rents far below the real rents to be entered in the khatians. It is probable that the rents fixed by Mr. Phillimore are below the rents actually paid previously by the tenants in these villages.

This work in these diara lands was most unsatisfactory, owing to the constant changes that are taking place in the lands themselves, their extent, and their value. After consulting the Collector and the Commissioner on the subject of these settlements, it was agreed that I should send up a report to the Commissioner through the Collector, asking that all such areas might in future be excluded from notifications under Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act. Orders have not yet been passed on this suggestion, which has received the support of both Mr. Hare and Mr. Forbes, but I am in hopes that the remaining diara settlement work may be completed under Regulation VII of 1822, and not under the Bengal Tenancy Act.

14. Before leaving this subject I may note that under the orders of the Government of India a Court-fee of 8 annas per tenant joined in or joining an application under section 104 has been levied during the year, and that appeals have been checked by a ruling of the Special Judge's that each tenant's case must bear a separate fee of Rs. 10 on appeal, even though the cases may all have been joined in one, and on one application, in the lower Court. I understand that this ruling has been upheld by the Honorable Judges of the High Court, but have not seen a copy of their orders on the subject.

15. *Draft publication.*—The records of villages that have been attested have been published in draft as far as was permitted by the rules in force, and 1,265 were actually published during the year. There have been 2,272 records thus published since the commencement of our work out of 2,393 records attested. Of the balance of 121 records as yet unpublished, some relate to Government villages in the diara in which rents have not yet been settled, about 50 are ready for draft publication and will shortly be published, and a few others are detained for various reasons which need not be detailed here. The work has been carried out by kanungoes, who visit each village and read out the contents of the records to the assembled villagers, and from the constant references made in our Courts to the information afforded to the parties by the visit of the kanungo to carry out this draft publication, and the absence of all complaints against them, we have every reason to believe that this responsible duty is intelligently performed.

16. *Objections under section 105.*—The work under this section has proved very heavy, no fewer than 7,492 objections having been presented during the year, of which 6,568 have been disposed of, including 84 objections which were pending from last year. Of the 1,008 petitions still pending, a considerable number will be disposed of very shortly, and the rest will be distributed to the attestation officers who are working in the neighbourhood of the villages concerned, and will be disposed of by them in the course of their tours. The institutions include 133 which were restored to our files under the instructions conveyed in Director's letter No. 498T.S., dated 15th December 1894, and which had been previously struck off as involving disputes between landlord and landlord and raiyat and raiyats, which cannot, according to the ruling of the High Court in the well known case of Pandit Sirdar (I. L. R., Calcutta XXI, p. 378), be finally disposed of in settlement Courts.

The bulk of the work was disposed of by Babu Charu Chander Kumar, Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta, and Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur, but Babu Siva Sankar Singh and Moulavi Syed Ali Mozhur disposed of many petitions relating to the area attested by them before they came in from camp. The decisions on these objections have doubtless tended to purify and improve our records, but I have had to watch and check a growing inclination on the part of my Assistant Settlement Officers to look upon these objections as so many plaints in petty civil suits and to reject them on technical grounds, without enquiry as to whether the actual entries in the record were correct or not. In the case of one officer also I have found many decisions, carrying with them alterations in our records, which were passed in default or on other insufficient grounds without full enquiry, and regardless of the fact that a Revenue Officer, either at the time of khanapuri or attestation, had deliberately, and after careful enquiry, made the original entry objected to. In dealing with such cases the interest of the Assistant Settlement Officer should lie solely in the correction and improvement of the record and in ascertaining the actual facts connected with the entries in question. He should therefore satisfy himself as to the correctness, in fact, of every order passed by him, and should not be content to dispose of these petitions as though they merely affected the parties named in them and as though we had no concern in their subject ourselves. I will endeavour to impress these principles afresh on my Assistants during the present year, in order that such mistakes as those referred to above may not again occur.

17. *Plaints under section 106.*—There were 808 such plaints filed during the year, including 98 restored to our files under the instructions from the Director alluded to in the preceding paragraph. The decrease as compared with 952 such institutions in 1893-94 is the more remarkable, as our operations were extended during the past year over a larger area than in 1893-94. It is doubtless due to the order prescribing *ad valorem* Court-fees recently passed by the Government of India, and to the instruction I have given under those orders, on the

advice of the Special Judge, that all such complaints should bear a Court-fee of Rs. 10. This instruction has been referred to the Director for consideration, and is now before the Board of Revenue; and although I am not of opinion that we should cheapen this form of litigation in our Courts, I should be glad of orders as to the line to be taken in calculating these fees.

The work under this section, the disposal of 870 cases, was mainly done by Mr. Dwija Das Dutta and Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur, who dealt with 489 and 308 cases respectively. There were 118 appeals decided during the year, in which 82 of the Revenue Officer's decisions were upheld, 4 were modified, and 32 were reversed.

18. In my Annual Report last year I gave some reasons for a respectful protest against the work thrown upon us by section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act, and it is for those reasons that I have said above that I do not think we should cheapen this form of litigation in our Courts. The Special Judge has again reiterated his ruling that we have no concern in dealing with these cases with questions of right and title, and in his advice as to the levy of a Court-fee of Rs. 10 in all cases, on the ground that it is impossible to determine, for the purposes of an *ad valorem* fee, the value of our decisions, he has clearly intimated that those decisions differ in many respects from the decrees of Civil Courts. At the same time, the ruling of the High Court in the case of Pandit Sirdar renders practically valueless all our proceedings in the very numerous cases between landlord and landlord and raiyat and raiyat. I understand that in Chittagong there are practically no complaints filed under section 106, the members of the local Bar having determined that it is better to have such disputes fought out in the Civil Courts. It does not seem to me that we act with due consideration for the interests of the disputants in encouraging them to embark on expensive litigation in our Courts for the purpose of obtaining decrees which will certainly not be looked upon with favour by the Civil Courts, even under the most favourable circumstances, and which will in many cases be treated by them as of no legal value whatsoever. I think that we should confine our settlement proceedings to the preparation of a record which will carry a presumption in favour of the correctness of the entries in it, and that all our enquiries should be summary in their nature and untrammelled by the procedure of Courts whose decisions are decrees. And I fully believe that all parties concerned would welcome such a change, the present law having failed already to give satisfaction to parties who wish for a final settlement of their disputes and an end to litigation.

19. *Final publication.*—The records of 768 villages were published finally during the year, and the records of over 100 more are now ready for publication, and will be very shortly published. It is hoped that in the course of the present year a great advance will be made in this work, and that by October next we shall be able to report the final publication of over 2,000 village records.

20. *Cost.*—As pointed out by me in the other Annual Reports I have had the honour of submitting for Saran, Champaran, and Gaya, it is impossible to give accurate figures for the survey year, which includes the last half of one financial year, and the first half of another. In statement J I have given figures showing the actual expenditure for the year, as far as it is ascertainable from our books without comparison with the Accountant-General's figures. But in the correspondence concerning apportionment and recovery of cost, an estimate has already been made of the probable total cost of our operations in Muzaffarpur, on which has been based an order by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor that recoveries are to be made at the rate of 8 annas per acre. An explanation of the very great increase in cost under heading "Contract and job" will appear in a subsequent paragraph, which deals with the work done in the head-quarters office.

21. *Statistics of area, &c.*—In my report for 1893-94 I gave some statistics of area to show the complexity of the work in Muzaffarpur. I am unable to report any improvement in this respect in the present year, as although the subdivision of proprietary rights is not so great in the northern areas we have dealt with, we have found it almost worse in the west and east. The figures for attestation up to date give 2,393 villages with an area of 1,188·87 square miles, 464,872 holdings, and 1,737,665 fields. These figures again give an area of 322 acres to each village, 194 holdings, and 726 fields, and also 390 holdings and 1,461 fields to each square mile. Each holding contains 3·65 fields and each field ·43 of an acre. These figures closely correspond with those given by me for a smaller area last year, and the rough estimates drawn up by me for the whole district do not yet require modification.

22. *Statistics of status and rent.*—It is a matter of great regret that I have not been able as yet to compile complete statistics on this subject for all the 2,393 villages that have been attested. The question of the forms in which the information contained in the *terijes* or indexes to the *khatians* should be compiled was for some time under discussion, and it was not until August last that the new form corresponding to statement K(ii) attached to this report was finally decided upon. Since then every effort has been made to press on the compilation of the figures, and a special establishment has been set on to the work, but the labour involved has proved so heavy that I am unable at present to give figures for more than 378 villages, covering an area of about 100 square miles. I may mention that I recently came across one of these indexes to the *terijes*, which are themselves the indexes to the *khatians*, which occupied a sheet of paper 14½ feet long by 3 feet broad and contained 150 separate lines of figures. I hope, however, that the statistics for the whole area will be completed in the course of the next two or three months, and that I shall then be in a position to supply complete information for 2,393 villages, covering an area of 1,188 square miles. In the meantime I have compiled some figures in statement K(i) for 1,006 villages covering an area of about 400 square miles, which may prove interesting as an addition to the

fuller information for a smaller area which appears in K(ii). The figures of percentages show that 75·36 of the holdings in these 1,006 villages are held by "settled raiyats" and 7·22 per cent. by raiyats holding at fixed rents or rates of rent. The percentages of area held by each class vary slightly from the other percentages, owing to the larger area of the holdings of proprietors, tenure-holders, and diara raiyats (by which are meant raiyats affected by section 180 of the Bengal Tenancy Act, who have occupancy rights only in those lands which they have held continuously for 12 years). The average rent per acre as given in this statement is inaccurate, in that it takes no account of the fact that some of the lands in column 3 are held on a produce rent. It would probably be correct to add about 10 per cent. on to the rents entered in K(i), column 7.

The figures given in statement K(ii) are for too small an area to be worth much analysis, but they may be useful as indicating the nature of the statistics we have in hand.

23. *Statistics of cultivation, &c.*—In statement L are given figures of cultivation, waste, irrigation, &c., for 2,162 villages, covering an area of 1,075 square miles, extracted from the milan khasras of those villages and compiled in the form recently prescribed by the Government of India. I regret to have been unable to complete the statement as regards the crops irrigated. Unfortunately this information was not included in the old forms prescribed for this statement, and I shall be unable to compile it without reference to the khasras of each village. Of the whole area of 688,408 acres, 77 per cent. is cropped and 23 uncultivated. This shows a high proportion of cultivation, as nearly the whole of the sand and water of the Gangetic diara south of Hajipur is included in the statistics. This fact will also account for the large amount of "water" and "other lands not available for cultivation," which together form nearly 50 per cent. of the uncultivated area. Mango groves form 17 per cent. of this area and current fallow only 4 per cent. The figure for groves is a high one, when the extent of the large rice plains and diara tracts within this area are taken into consideration. Of the net cropped area of 532,763 acres, 60 per cent. grows rabi crops, including the thin crops of khesari and linseed, sometimes gathered after the rice crop has been taken off the land, 40 per cent. grows aghani crops, and 41 per cent. grows bhadoi, 42 per cent. being twice cropped in the year.

The figures for irrigation seem to me to be inadequate, but of course the diara and rice lands must be excluded from consideration. The irrigated area is returned as 14,741 acres, or 3 per cent. only of the net cropped area. The small percentage appears to show that in some soils and with some crops extensive irrigation is not necessary to high cultivation, and the large area under tobacco, which usually occupies garden lands, which would otherwise be irrigated, may have some effect on these figures. Over 80 per cent. of this irrigated area is irrigated from wells, there being no large irrigation works in the district. Seven thousand seven hundred and fifteen wells have been recorded, each of which irrigates 2 acres only on an average. Of these wells 2,162 have been recorded as earthen, and are probably not of much value.

24. *Crop statistics.*—The figures given in statement M explain themselves and require but little comment. Rice occupies 36 per cent. of the net cropped area, and barley, the chief rabi crop, 23 per cent. The very large area under "Other food-grains, including pulses," contains such extensive crops as rahar, peas, khesari, masuri, and the like. Indigo occupies 6 per cent. of the net cropped area, a large proportion when the closeness of cultivation and the large proportion of the total area which is unsuited to indigo are considered. Yams, under which "alua and sutni," the native potatoes, are entered, occupy 5 per cent. of the area, and tobacco, which was very largely grown in 1892-93, but was less popular in 1893-94, occupies 2 per cent. The poppy, which is very highly cultivated and profusely irrigated in this part of the country, is grown in 5,000 acres only, about 9 per cent. of the net cropped area.

25. *Office work.*—The work at the head-quarters office has assumed large proportions in the course of the year. In addition to all the work connected with the current operations in the field, which is in itself considerable when we have 15 or 16 officers in camps all over the district, all receiving their orders, the materials for their work, and supplies of men, money, and stationery from head-quarters. There is a good deal of correspondence work for the English office, a very heavy demand for copies of all sorts, a constant press of work in the record-room, which now contains the records for nearly 4,000 villages, and the whole of the work of the completion of the records referred to below. I have consequently had to employ a staff of some 400 men constantly at work throughout the recess and have had to take up a large amount of fresh office accommodation for them, while the work of controlling and supervising this large establishment has become an arduous task. The vernacular department work has proved especially heavy. It may be said to consist roughly of—

- (1) The correction of the records in accordance with the orders passed on objections under section 105, on applications under sections 104, and in cases under section 106. Over 12,000 of such cases have been dealt with up to date.
- (2) The correction and final arrangement of the records, 2,159 records containing 1,524,301 plots have been corrected and arranged up to date.
- (3) The preparation of the terijes and of the abstracts of the terijes which proceeds *pari passu* with the check and correction work. The abstracts of terijes are behindhand for reasons given in another paragraph, but 2,159 terijes have already been prepared.

- (4) The copying of the records, one copy for the Collectorate, one for the landlord, and one for the tenant, including also comparison and a final check of the Collectorate copy. One thousand one hundred and thirty-nine records have passed through this stage, containing 732,014 plots.

There are also miscellaneous items of work, such as the preparation of traces and registers for the new Registrars of Mutations, the compilation of statistics of cultivation and crops from the milan khasras and crop statements, and the binding of the final records in volumes. And we have now to add to this the heavy accounts work which is involved in the apportionment of costs which must precede recovery. And the work of check and arrangement of the records often discloses serious omissions and errors in the papers which necessitate reference to the Assistant Settlement Officers for orders, and often require the attendance of parties to explain and amplify the entries, and this part of our work occupies a very large proportion of the time of the Assistant Settlement Officer in charge and of his case officer at head-quarters.

26. *Miscellaneous.*—Among miscellaneous items of work which have been dealt with during the year may be mentioned the survey of the municipalities of Muzaffarpur and Hajipur, and the preparation of special records for those areas. This has been done by the Survey establishment under instructions from me and in consultation with the Municipal authorities who are paying the cost of the work. A separate report has been submitted on the subject of these municipal surveys.

There has been much discussion during the year of the new Act for the maintenance of the record, and His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor visited Muzaffarpur in August last to arrange the details of the system of maintenance that has been created by it.

The question of apportionment of cost was also finally dealt with by Government in the course of the year, but the settlement of the details of the scheme of accounts, and the preparation of instructions which will be comprehensive, and will meet all the difficulties involved in the application of the principles approved by Government, has proved a harder task than was anticipated, and has not yet been completed.

Two junior members of the Indian Civil Service received some training in settlement work in the course of the year. I would venture to suggest, for the consideration of Government, that such officers are unable to make good use of the opportunities afforded to them until they have been in the country for at least a year and have some practical acquaintance with the language in which all our work is conducted, and that it would be advisable to send out no officers for this purpose until their second year in India has begun.

There was much correspondence in the course of the year concerning the procedure to be followed in revising the maps and records prepared during the experimental survey of 1885-86, and also in dealing with certain villages belonging to the Maharaja of Darbhanga, which had been surveyed by Mr. Finucane in 1875, when the Maharaja's estates were under the Court of Wards. It is too early to report on the results of the procedure ultimately adopted, as the records prepared have not yet been attested and completed, but this subject will be more fully dealt with in the next annual report.

27. *General Remarks.*—The general description of the work given by me under this heading in my annual report for 1893-94 is still applicable to it. Our proceedings are still complicated by the great subdivision of proprietary rights, and the highbanded attempts of some of the smaller proprietors to prevent the record of their raiyats' rights, and to secure the entry of rents higher than those actually paid, have given us a great deal of trouble in the past year. Our relations with the vast majority of both landlords and raiyats, who have made no efforts to falsify our records, still continue to be good, and there has been a remarkable absence of friction between our establishments and the people among whom they have worked. Our relations with the European indigo-planters, who form the largest body of landholders in the area in which we have been working, continue to be good, and I must again express our acknowledgments to Mr. Macnaghten, the Secretary to the Bihar Indigo-Planters' Association, for the assistance he has rendered to Government in smoothing the difficulties from which our work can never be wholly free. I also desire to acknowledge the ready help that has been accorded to me and to the Department by Mr. Hare, the Collector of the district, and Colonel Ramsay, the District Superintendent of Police, on all occasions on which I have had to ask them for advice or assistance.

I have already referred to the careful attestation work done by Babu Shiva Shankar Singh, Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta, and Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur. Moulavi Shah Mohamad Azam also worked with untiring industry and patience throughout the field season.

In case and office work also Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur has done extremely well, and the thorough practical knowledge of the record that he has acquired and the energy and intelligence of his work have been of great service to me. Babu Bhupendro Nath Gupta has been of valuable assistance to us throughout the recess, and has proved himself again one of the most competent of my Assistant Settlement Officers. Babu Charu Chandra Kumar has also done much hard work, and when he has gained more experience and personal interest in his work, and has added thoroughness to his methods, he will be a useful officer. Among the officers on khanapuri Mr. S. S. Day and Babu Chinta Haran Chatterji did excellent work.

To Mr. R. B. Hughes my acknowledgments are especially due. Although this officer has been but a short time in the Department, he has already acquired a grip of the intricate details of our work, and has been of the greatest assistance to me in all my preparations for

the present field season, and in supervising the large establishment employed in the headquarters office. In Captain Crichton, the Superintendent of Survey, I have had a most valuable colleague, whose advice and assistance have been always at my disposal, and who has shown an interest in all the details of record-writing and an appreciation of its importance, which have materially affected the character of the records which have been prepared by the Survey Department.

A.—Staff of Officers.

NAME OF OFFICER.	Work on which employed.	Period of employment.	Days spent on tour.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
1. P. C. Lyon, Esq., C.S. ...	.....	From 16th October 1894 to 2nd September 1895.	177	Privilege leave from 1st to 16th October 1894 and from 3rd September to 27th September 1895.
2. J. E. Phillimore, Esq., C.S....	Settlement of fair rents in Government estates, khamapuri inspection and investigation of boundary disputes.	From 28th December 1894 to 1st May 1895.	71	On privilege leave from 1st May 1895. Subsequently reverted to general duty.
3. C. A. Bell, Esq., C.S. ...	Khamapuri inspection and investigation of boundary disputes.	From 3rd January to 20th February 1895.	34	Transferred to Motihari.
4. E. B. Hughes, Esq., C.S. ...	Case work and in charge of office ...	From 12th August 1895 to end of year.	...	"
5. C. C. Warburton, Esq. ...	Attestation work. Afterwards inspection of khamapuri and investigation of boundary disputes.	From 2nd November 1894 to 3rd May 1895.	169	On privilege leave from 3rd May to 3rd June 1895, when he retired from the service.
6. Babu Siva Sankar Singh ...	Attestation work ...	From 1st October 1894 to 16th May 1895.	200	Reverted to general duty.
7. Mr. Dwija Das Dutta ...	Case work ...	From 1st October 1894 to 2nd July 1895.	34	On privilege leave from 3rd July 1895 to end of year.
8. Mr. Rowland Nagendra Lal Chandra.	Attestation work ...	From 16th October to 2nd November 1894.	11	Transferred to Gaya.
9. Maulavi Shah Mahamad Azam.	Ditto ...	From 17th October 1894 to 11th May 1895.	198	Reverted to general duty.
10. Babu Charu Chandra Kumar	Attestation and case work ...	From 16th October 1894 to end of year.	263	On privilege leave from 27th April to 20th May 1895.
11. Maulavi Mahamad Yasuf Ali	Attestation work ...	From 17th October 1894 to 9th May 1895.	197	Reverted to general duty.
12. Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta.	Attestation and case work ...	From 16th October 1894 to end of year.	320	
13. Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto ...	255	
14. Maulavi Syed Ali Mazhar ...	Attestation work ...	From 19th October 1894 to 6th May 1895.	193	Ditto ditto.
15. Mr. Sorab S. Day ...	Khamapuri inspection and investigation of boundary disputes.	From 17th December 1894 to 12th May 1895.	134	Ditto ditto.
16. „ Ram Komal Gupta ...	Attestation work ...	From 29th October 1894 to 22nd May 1895.	198	Ditto ditto.
17. Babu Chintu Haran Chatterji.	Khamapuri inspection and investigation of boundary disputes.	From 20th November 1894 to 8th May 1895.	168	Ditto ditto.
18. Babu Khetra Bhawan Pershad.	Ditto ditto ...	From 6th November 1894 to 4th May 1895.	55	On privilege leave from 21st December 1894 to 22nd March 1895. Reverted to general duty.

B.—Statement of general progress.

[illegible]

C.—Return of Khanapuri Work.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER EMPLOYED.	NAME OF CIRCLE.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	Up to end of the previous year.		During the year.		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH KHANAPURI WORK WAS COMPLETED.	Number of villages inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of amins inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of plots of which the khasra entries were tested	REMARKS.
				Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
P. C. Lyon, Esq., C.S.... "	Muzaffarpur	1,142	841	...	...	1,140	838-47	...	48	72 77 17 36 181 183	...	450 disputed settled, ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto.
J. E. Phillimore, Esq., C.S. ... " C. A. Bell, Esq., C.S. ... " P. J. Day, Esq., C.S. ... " M. S. G. Day ... " Babu Khetra Bhosen Prasad ... " G. C. Waghurekar, Esq. ... " Babu Chinta Harad Chat- terji,	Sitamarhi ... "	508	526-20	...	...	502	525-98	...	48	73 17 36 181 183 74 289	...	12,899
	Total	1,650	1,367-20	2,417	1,254	1,642	1,364-46	...	779	695	10,139	

D.—Return of Boundary Disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF.			Number remaining at the end of the month.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE MONTH UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
	To the end of the pre-vious year.	During the month.	Total.	To end of the previous month.	During the month.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending from preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Decided during the year by the follow- ing officers :—	891	376	1,267	837	406	1,243	24	71	67	62	3 (1 by comprom- ise.)	2	
1. P. C. Lyon, Esq.	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
2. J. E. Phillimore, Esq.	27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
3. C. A. Bell, Esq.	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
4. R. B. Hughes, Esq.	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
5. F. Lyall, Esq.	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
6. C. C. Warburton, Esq.	96	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
7. Babu Siva Sankar Singh ...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
8. Mr. Dwija Das Datta ...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
9. Maulavi Shah Mahamad Azam ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
10. Babu Charu Chandra Kumar ...	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
11. Maulavi Mahamad Yusuf Ali ...	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
12. Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta ...	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
13. „ Rai Krishna Bahadur ...	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
14. Maulavi Syed Ali Mazhar ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
15. Mr. Ram Komal Gupta ...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
16. „ Sorab S. Day ...	37	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
17. Babu Chinta Haran Chatterji ...	92	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
18. „ Khetra Bhusan Pershad ...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Total ...	406	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	

E.—Return of attestation work, including final publication of Records.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of Circle.	Number of villages in the circle.			Area of the circle in square miles.	Number of villages for which records have been received from the Survey Department.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.				NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT PUBLISHED.		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED.		REMARKS. (Here note adequacy of work done or cause of failure to work up to programme.)
		Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.			Number of plots.	Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
Mr. Dwija Das Datta and Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta.	I	161	68'48	161	1,032	442'47	185,868	606,920	161	68'48	33,919	135,112			Nil	768			
Babu Siva Sankar Singh ...	II	125	80'40	125					122	75'47	29,701	132,123							
Maulavi Syed Ali Mazhar ...	III	125	68'78	125					125	68'78	31,320	133,578							
Maulavi Mahamad Yusuf Ali and Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur.	IV	95	52'30	95					94	51'25	23,566	116,437							
Babu Charu Chandra Kumar ...	V	112	87'72	112					111	89'36	33,465	118,881							
Mr. C. C. Warburton and Maulavi Mahamad Yusuf Ali.	VI	224	111'39	224					224	111'39	37,368	132,659							
Maulvi Shah Mahamad Azam and Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta.	VII	192	127'09	192					191	126'59	35,188	140,732							
Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur ...	VIII	212	72'21	212					206	69'48	28,155	112,912							
Mr. Ram Komal Gupta and Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta.	IX	128	87'60	128					127	85'40	26,322	108,311							
Total ...		1,374	757'97	1,374	1,032	442'47	185,868	606,920	1,361	746'40	279,004	1,130,745	1,007	1,265	Nil	768			

F.—Return of cases under section 104 of the Tenancy Act for Settlement of Fair Rents.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of Circle.	Area of circle in square miles.			NUMBER OF CASES INSTITUTED.			NUMBER OF CASES DISPOSED OF.			NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED.			Former rental of tenants included in column 12.	New rental settled for tenants in column 12.	NUMBER OF DECISIONS APPEALED AGAINST TO SPECIAL JUDGE.			NUMBER OF APPEALS DECIDED.			NUMBER OF DECISIONS OF REVENUE OFFICERS AS IN COLUMN 20—			REMARKS.
		To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.			To end of previous year, including cases pending on 30th September of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
Previous year's figures Settlement Officer ...			207	...	...	183	...	183	2,986	...	2,986	Rs. 23,605	Rs. 24,239	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	*These applications were all withdrawn before they came to trial and no rents were settled.	
Babu Annada Charan Gupta						60* 7		69 7	...	...	33	...	107	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Mr. Dwija Das Datta ...						13		13	...	...	378	378	882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta.						300		300	...	...	1,722	1,722	21,985	25,040	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Babu Charu Chandra Kumar.							44	44	...	...	513	513	4,913	5,402	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
R. B. Hughes, Esq. ...							2*	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	These are Government villages in the diara, in which settlements of revenue are being made.	
Total ...			207	429	636	183	435	618	2,986	2,646	5,632	51,492	55,784	1	13	14	1	12	13	11	2	...	...		
Mr. J. E. Phillimore ...				29	29	...	14	14	...	695	595	1,487	2,847	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
GRAND TOTAL ...			207	458	665	183	449	632	2,986	3,241	6,227	52,979	58,631	1	13	14	1	12	13	11	2	...	...		

*These applications were all withdrawn before they came to trial and no rents were settled.

These are Government villages in the diara, in which settlements of revenue are being made.

G.—Details of Enhancements made under section 104.

NAME OF OFFICER.	Number of tenants for whom rents have been settled.	Previous rent.	Enhancement on account of excess area.	Percentage of 4 on 3.	Enhancement under section 30.	Percentage of 6 on 3.	Total enhancement.	Percentage 8 on 3.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
All officers	2,646	27,887	3,535	12'67	123	'43	31,645	13'1	These figures relate only to applications dealt with during the past year, and do not include Mr. Phillimore's settlements in the diara.

H.—Return of Objections under section 105 and Disputes under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NATURE OF CASE.	Number instituted up to the end of the previous month, including cases pending on 30th September of previous year.	Number instituted during the year.	Total.	Number disposed of to end of the previous year.	Number disposed of during the year.	Total.	Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.				REMARKS. (State grounds on which decisions have been appealed against and summarise orders of courts of appeal.)	
									Instituted, including appeals pending on 30th September of preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
											Upheld.	Modified.		Reversed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
All officers ...	(1) Objections heard and considered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act.	4,161	7,492	11,653	4,077	6,568	10,645	1,008	...	...	...	...	...	
	(2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	1,315	808	2,123	1,027	870	1,897	226	131	118	82	4 (2 by compromise.)	32	

J.—Financial Statement.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Expenditure to end of the previous year (against each sub-head).	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head).	REMARKS.*
1	2	3	4
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Pay and special allowance of—			
Settlement Officer	16,561 6 11	*26,955 13 5	Includes Settlement Officer's pay for three months in 1893-94 drawn while on leave.
Assistant Settlement Officers	13,555 14 1	30,198 10 11	
2. Fixed establishment	1,828 5 11	2,009 0 9	
3. Temporary establishment	9,814 2 9	2,02,020 2 7	
4. Contract and job work	3,942 2 5	26,952 0 1	
5. Travelling allowance—			
Of officers	5,772 14 6	10,075 3 6	
Of establishment	99 6 6	203 9 6	
6. Supplies and services—			
Forms	202 13 3	783 11 7	
Tents	2,615 1 1	2,132 13 0	
Petty construction ... ..	...	.....	
" repairs	20 9 9	.....	
7. Contingencies—			
Hot weather charges	125 11 8	238 5 8	
Office rent	139 13 0	1,901 15 8	
Service telegrams	51 10 0	225 5 0	
" postage charges	255 14 6	555 6 0	
Miscellaneous	3,032 6 9	5,910 3 5	
Total	58,078 5 1	1,28,342 4 8	

K (i).—Details of status and rent in 1,006 villages.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF AREA AND RENT.							REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Percentage of holdings to total.	Aggregate area held by each class.	Percentage of area to total.	Average area per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per acre.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. Proprietor's sir (nij-jote) ...	4,515	2.74	10,885.10	4.82	2.41	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	The figures in this statement exclude those for unoccupied lands and lands held by Government or the District Board.
2. Held by proprietors, but not true sir ...	4,969	3.02	13,190.53	5.84	2.63	...	...	
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders.	1,039	.63	3,394.80	1.50	3.26	...	...	
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents ...	11,874	7.22	15,326.69	6.78	1.29	57,099 15 7	3 10 11	
5. Settled raiyats ...	123,912	75.36	164,820.40	72.10	1.31	5,96,477 2 9	3 10 7	
6. Occupancy raiyats ...	3,277	1.99	2,854.48	1.27	.87	15,618 8 5	4 12 3	
7. Non-occupancy raiyats ...	5,999	3.64	4,206.89	1.86	.76	18,566 10 3	4 6 7	
8. Rent-free holders ...	5,821	3.54	3,835.95	1.73	.87	...	...	
9. Diars ...	3,000	1.82	2,277.87	4.08	3.07	27,657 1 0	2 15 11	
Total ...	164,403	...	225,808.28	...	...	7,13,609 0 0	...	
10. Under-raiyats ...	11,766	...	5,588.76	2.47	.47	...	...	

K (ii).—Details of status and rent in 378 villages.

Number of villages.	PROPRIETOR'S ZERAT.				HELD BY PROPRIETORS, BUT NOT ZERAT.				IN CULTIVATING POSSESSION OF TENURE-HOLDER.				RAIYATS AT FIXED RENTS OR RATES.						
	Number of holding.	Area of cultivated land.	Area of uncultivated land.	Total area.	Number of holding.	Area of cultivated land.	Area of uncultivated land.	Total area.	Number of holding.	Area of cultivated land.	Area of uncultivated land.	Total area.	Number of holding.	Area of cultivated land.	Area of uncultivated land.	Total area.	Total of existing rent.	Average rate per cultivated area.	Average rate per acre of total area.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
378	1,291	5,161.60	1,562.60	6,724.20	1,000	3,413.82	878.46	4,292.28	1,667	2,353.20	354.62	2,717.82	1,330	1,963.04	878.74	2,841.78	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
																	8,981 10 6	4 9	3 8 3

SETTLED OR OCCUPANCY RAIYATS.

NON-OCCUPANCY RAIYATS.

Number of holding.	Area of cultivated land.	Area of uncultivated land.	Total area.	Area on produce rent.	Total of existing rent.	Average rate per cultivated area.	Average rate per acre of total area.	Number of holding.	Area of cultivated land.	Area of uncultivated land.	Total area.	Area on produce rent.	Total of existing rent.	Average rate per cultivated area.	Average rate per acre of total area.
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
23,323	33,612.97	3,642.72	37,255.69	2,436.10	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	1,636	958.76	153.25	1,112.01	266.44	5,207 15 3	5 6 10	4 10 11
					1,95,089 8 0	5 12 10	5 3 9								

RENT-FREE HOLDERS.				UN-OCCUPIED.		KAISER-HIND.	TOTAL AREA.	UNDER-RAIYATS.								REMARKS.
Number of holding.	Area of cultivated land.	Area of uncultivated land.	Total area.	Number of holding.	Total area.	Total area.	Total area.	Number of holding.	Area of cultivated land.	Area of uncultivated land.	Total area.	Area on produce rent.	Existing rent.	Average rate per cultivated acre.	Average rate per acre of total area.	
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53
1,264	608.94	102.62	711.56	1,361	11,128.38	420.58	69,616.84	1,842	616.72	37.87	654.59	511.69	Rs. A. P. 3,450 15 6	Rs. A. P. 5 9 6	Rs. A. P. 5 4 4	

M.—Crop Statement.

NUMBER OF VILLAGES.	CEREALS AND PULSE.										OILSEEDS.					CONDIMENTS AND SPICES.		SUGAR.		FIBRES.			
	Rice.	Wheat.	Barley.	Jowar (millet).	Mandua.	Maize.	Gram.	Urd, etc.	Rajra (millet).	Kachiana.	Other food grains, including pulses.	Linseed.	Til or linelly.	Mustard.	Others.			Sugarcane.	Others.	Cotton.	Jute.	Flax.	Others.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
2,163	196,408 15	27,306 83	123,357 92	5,319 90	16,463 46	79,473 74	15,031 25	9,633 51	241 34	1,056 29	141,748 17	10,708 92	463 16	3,694 51	1,559 9	751 18	5,004 13	174 16	4,354 28	823 59	383 77	1,150 71	

NUMBER OF VILLAGES.	DYES.		DRUGS AND NARCOTICS.										MISCELLANEOUS CROPS.						Total.	Area cropped more than once.	Net area cropped.	REMARKS.
	Indigo.	Others.	Opium.	Coffee.	Tea.	Tobacco.	Cinchona.	Indian hemp.	Others.	Rodder crops.	Others.	Garden produce and orchards other than mango groves.	Food.				Non-food.					
													Potatoes.	Yams.	Other food crops.							
...	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	
1,162	33,134 3	...	571 78	4,998 84	23 87	...	14,000 6	5 4	1 22	113 04	4,983 7	288 24	2,381 55	2,820 5	29,248 43	5,196 21	17,995 87	760,459 91	227,696 3	532,763 88		

P. C. LYON,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX IX.

No. , dated Muzaffarpur, the 26th October 1895.

From—P. C. LION, Esq., Settlement Officer, Champaran,

To—The Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith the annual report on the settlement operations in the district of Champaran for the survey year from 1st October 1894 to 30th September 1895.

1. *Notifications.*—The work done by the Survey Department during the year—the preparation of records in a fresh area of 1,168 square miles, situated in the north and east of the district—was covered by a series of notifications Nos. 4567L.R., 4568L.R., 4569L.R., 4570L.R., and 4571L.R., published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of 12th September 1894, while the operations of the Settlement Department, in attesting and completing the records, were confined to the area which had been brought under Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act by notification No. 4169L.R. of the 3rd October 1893.

2. *Programme.*—The programme of work set out for the settlement staff during the past year was—

- (a) The attestation of the area in which record-writing had been completed by the survey staff during the field season of 1893-94, about 500 square miles.
- (b) The supervision of *khanapuri* in an area of 1,168 square miles, of which the records were to be written by the survey staff during the field season, and the investigation and decision of boundary disputes connected with those villages.
- (c) The settlement of fair rents in all cases in which applications should be made throughout the area set down for attestation.
- (d) The disposal of objections and disputes, and the completion of the records for the area in which attestation was to be done during the field season.

3. *Staff of officers and distribution of work.*—There were several changes in its settlement staff in the course of the year. In February the operations were most unfortunately deprived of the services of Mr. Colvin, the Settlement Officer, who had to take privilege leave owing to ill-health, and I was given control of the operations in addition to my other duties, with Mr. C. A. Bell as Assistant Settlement Officer in subordinate charge. On Mr. Colvin's return from leave he was appointed Magistrate and Collector of the district, and did not return to settlement duty. Mr. Bell left on privilege leave at the end of July, and was succeeded on 20th August by Mr. Kerr, who remained in charge until the close of the year. From the 1st April the Saran operations were definitely separated from those in Champaran, and a new office was established at Siwan under the charge of Mr. Gauntlett. In Statement A attached to this report full particulars are given of the staff of Assistant Settlement Officers employed during the year, the nature of the work they were employed on, and the number of days they were on tour.

4. *Record-writing.*—Two survey parties were at work in the district during the year under the charge of Messrs. R. B. and A. W. Smart. The area of 1,168 square miles dealt with by them was divided into four circles, each under the supervision of an Assistant Settlement Officer, who inspected *khanapuri* and dealt with boundary disputes as they arose. They also had to take up as many of the miscellaneous disputes arising in the course of *khanapuri* as they could cope with, as both the *amin* and inspector have now been forbidden to make any entries when such disputes exist. The work of survey and record-writing was carried through with much energy, and was completed by the end of April. Considerable trouble was experienced in the north-east corner of the district owing to bitter disputes between the Madhuban zamindar and his tenants, and some delay was occasioned in a few villages to the east of Motihari owing to the persistent efforts of certain petty zamindars to get themselves and their relatives recorded as *raiats* for lands in the cultivating possession of others, but on the whole the work of record-writing was accomplished without much friction.

5. The outturn of inspection of *khanapuri* was unfortunately smaller than it should have been, considering that four officers were engaged upon it, but one of these officers joined the staff very late in the season, and was prevented by constant ill-health after he had joined from carrying out his duties with adequate energy, while another did not prove a success as an Assistant Settlement Officer, and has not been recalled in the present season. And the system under which the greater portion of the survey work was done by the survey parties early in the season, and the work of *khanapuri* was postponed until its close, rendered it very difficult for the Assistant Settlement Officers to keep in touch with the record-writing during the months of March and April. This system has now been amended by Captain Crichton, and it is hoped that in the current year the work of *khanapuri* will be commenced much sooner, and will be spread more evenly over the field season.

6. There was a great increase in the number of boundary disputes filed during the year, 366 being reported as against 113 in previous years. The increase was due to the fact that much of the record-writing was done in the south-east of the district, near the border of Muzaffarpur, where proprietary rights are more subdivided, and the Bettiah Raj is not so predominant as in the areas previously surveyed. Of these 366 disputes, 362 were disposed of in the course of the year, those relating to the district boundary between Muzaffarpur and Champaran being transferred to Muzaffarpur and dealt with there.

7. *Attestation.*—Four attestation camps were formed during the field season. Camp A dealt with 93 villages in tappas Mando, Jafraabad, Harnatar, and Sugaon. Work was

commenced on 28th October and completed on 25th March. Camp B attested 110 villages in tappa Mudhmal between 27th October and 24th March. Two of the villages comprised in this tappa make up the Motihari Municipality. The records of these, which were not received from the Survey Office in time for attestation during the field season, were attested by Mr. Kerr at head-quarters during September. In Camp C 104 villages were attested between 18th November and 3rd April. These villages are in tappas Sonewal and Sakhwa. Camp D attested 66 villages in tappa Sugaon between 27th October and 17th March. The programmes for each camp were fixed with reference to the number of plots to be attested, which ranged from just over a lakh in Camp D to 130,000 in Camp C. Progress on the whole was satisfactory, being at the rate of about 25,000 plots a month. The officers in charge of Camps A and B remained in camp till nearly the end of May, settling rents under section 104, and deciding objections under section 105, throughout the area that had been attested. The officer in charge of Camp D reverted to general duty, and the officer in charge of Camp C was transferred to Saran on completing their attestation programmes.

8. In the early part of November, before opening his own attestation camp, Maulavi Gholam Ghous was deputed to tappa Patjirwa to test the attestation of the status of the raiyats of 52 villages, which had been attested in the previous season. Forty-three per cent. of the tenants in this area had been attested as non-occupancy raiyats, and it was suspected that some mistake had been made by the Assistant Settlement Officer in classifying them. Mr. Colvin accordingly deputed Maulavi Gholam Ghous to enquire into the matter, and it was found necessary to alter the status of no less than 1,263 tenants, who had been recorded as "non-occupancy raiyats," and to record them as "settled" raiyats. In the majority of cases the change was made with the consent of the landlords, who admitted that these tenants held occupancy rights when the law was explained to them. When objection was made by the landlord, but it appeared on enquiry that the tenant really possessed occupancy rights, the alteration was made, and the landlord was directed to bring a suit under section 106. Investigation showed that many of the tenants, who had been classed as non-occupancy raiyats, had held batai lands prior to the assessment of their holdings to cash rents, and that this period of occupation had not been taken into consideration, and also that sufficient enquiry had not been made at the time of attestation as to whether the tenants held lands in the village other than those in the particular holding under attestation.

9. On the whole the attestation work was carried through with a remarkable absence of friction throughout the field season. A large proportion of the area dealt with was held by three large indigo concerns, and very great assistance was given to us in the preparation of the records by the managers and assistants of the factories. The attendance both of landlords and raiyats was good, and with the help of carefully-kept and systematically-arranged zamindari papers most of the difficulties of the attestation work were quickly surmounted. It was found, however, that the correction and arrangement work prescribed for the camp establishment fell into unavoidable arrears, and it was two months after the close of the field season before the papers of the villages attested were completed and made ready for the preparation of the terij or abstract of the khatians. An attempt has been made in the rules, which have been prepared for attestation during the current season, to reduce this correction and arrangement work, but it remains to be seen whether the proposed reduction will prove a reform, and it is possible that the previous system may have to be returned to. In this case it will probably be necessary to increase the establishment of each attestation camp, but I shall make this increase with reluctance, as every addition to those establishments tends to decrease the mobility of the camps and to make them more formidable to the villages among which they move.

10. *Settlement of fair rents.*—This part of our work is very important in Champaran owing to the very large number of applications made by the landlords for the enhancement of rents under section 104 of the Bengal Tenancy Act, both on account of excess in the areas held by their tenants and on the ground that some of them are holding without due cause at lower rates of rent than are warranted by the rates prevailing in the village. And in some cases enhancements have also been applied for on the ground of an alleged rise in the prices of food-grains. These applications were received during the year from 286 villages as against 182 villages in 1893-94 and 66 villages in 1892-93, and the number of tenants for whom rents were settled amounted to 17,896 as against 15,740 in 1893-94 and 1,385 in 1892-93. The enhancements made in the past year as compared with those made in previous years are shown in the following table:—

YEAR.	Number of tenants for whom rents were settled.	Former rental.	Fair rental settled.	Enhancement.	Percentage of increase.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1892-93	17,105	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	12.46
1893-94		1,07,439	1,20,833	13,394	
1894-95		1,46,593	1,61,831	15,438	
Total ...	35,001	2,53,832	2,32,664	28,832	11.36

But the following comparison of the results of the settlement of rents in the areas taken up in 1893-94 and 1894-95 respectively is more instructive as showing a greater difference in the percentage of increase, clearly due to the reason anticipated by Mr. Colvin in his last annual report that in the area south of that in which our operations were at first begun, there is much less land available for encroachment. And to this may be added the fact that in the case of two of the four landlords, who instituted most of the cases, a private survey and settlement of rents, undertaken within the past few years, had brought about a recent assessment of excess areas to rent:—

AREA.	Number of tenants for whom rents have been settled.	Former rental.	Fair rent settled.	Enhancement.	Percentage of increase.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Attested in 1893-94 ...	22,151	Rs. 1,44,556	Rs. 1,62,636	Rs. 18,080	12.50
Ditto 1894-95 ...	12,850	1,09,276	1,20,028	10,752	9.83
Total ...	35,001	2,53,832	2,82,664	28,832	11.35

11. The greater portion of this work was done by Maulavi Gholam Ghous, Pundit R. B. Misra, and Maulavi Syed Ahmad Ali Khan, who settled the rents of over 15,000 tenants between them, but Mr. C. A. Bell tried 54 cases involving 1,853 tenants during the recess. Almost the whole of the enhancement was due to increase in area, and a large part of it was decreed in accordance with compromises arrived at between the parties, in which the tenant acknowledged that he had taken up fresh lands and consented to pay the new rent calculated on those lands.

12. Although in many cases claims were made in the original applications for enhancement of rates under section 30 of the Bengal Tenancy Act, these claims were in most cases subsequently withdrawn. When such claims came to trial, the applicant rarely succeeded in proving his title to enhancement in full, and out of the total enhancement of Rs. 15,438 made during the year, only Rs. 780, or 5.3 per cent., is due to decrees under this section. On this point Mr. Kerr writes:—"The landlord in Champaran is at a great disadvantage in establishing claims for enhanced rents on the ground of 'prevailing rate,' because, as a rule, there is no fixed rate for each class of land, the rate being fixed on the whole holding irrespective of the proportion of good or bad land which it may contain. Thus the landlord has not only to prove the similarity of specific plots, but the general similarity of holdings, a much more complicated undertaking." I may note also that the view has been taken by the officers dealing with these cases that "prevailing rate" means "the rate at which, and not less than which, the majority of the raiyats holding similar lands pay rent." This view has support in the explanation of the section given by Sir Griffith Evans in Council during the discussion of the Tenancy Act, but is opposed to the view which holds that there can be no "prevailing rate," unless an absolute majority of the raiyats pay at one certain and definite rate for similar lands.

13. As regards enhancement on account of a rise in the price of food-grains, Mr. Kerr remarks:—"The landlords have signally failed to establish their claims, mainly owing to the unsatisfactory nature of the evidence produced by them. This has consisted solely of statistics compiled from the official gazette and of vague oral statements. No local grain-dealers' account-books have been produced in any case, though these would have formed the most satisfactory evidence. This is generally attributed to the reluctance of the mahajans to produce their accounts in court." No enhancements have been made on this ground, and in my report on the operations in Saran I have given some figures to show what an unsatisfactory basis for enhancements such a rise in prices would be.

14. The general principles on which decisions on applications for enhancement of rent on the ground of increase in area were based remained the same as described by Mr. Colvin in his report for 1893-94; but as these principles were better understood, they were applied with less friction than in previous years. There were very few cases in which the real raiyats contested these cases, but it was found that where the village mahajans had secretly acquired the lands from the raiyats and cultivated in their names, they were always ready to fight the landlords' claims and to spend much money in doing so. At the same time, when the raiyats were willing to come to reasonable terms, the four landlords, who made most of the applications, were careful to ascertain what basis of compromise would be considered fair in each case before negotiating for a compromise, and when compromises were put in, there was hardly ever any necessity to call for their amendment on the ground that the rents that resulted from them were not fair and equitable. In deciding whether the proposed enhancements were fair, the standard of measurement and the nature of the former measurement were considered, and a careful comparison was made between the areas shown in our papers and those that appeared in former measurement papers, an allowance being made for

differences in the standard and method of measurement. In contested cases proof of former measurement and of its nature and standard was insisted on, but the applicant was not called upon to point out the specific plots in which encroachment had taken place, nor was he considered to be barred from obtaining an enhancement on the ground that there appeared to be no change in the boundaries of the tenants' lands. Some of the cases decided in former years against the Bettiah Raj were carried through to the High Court on appeal, and it is said that the decrees have been reversed, but the judgments in those appeals have not yet reached me.

A modification in the orders as to court-fees was made during the year, and the Government of India published a notification imposing a fee of 8 annas for every tenant joined in, or joining, an application under section 104 in place of the single fee of 8 annas for each application that had hitherto been accepted. The Special Judge of Muzaffarpur has decided that an application under this section may be made by a proprietor, even though he has assigned all his interest to another as his farmer or ticcadar, and is no longer, strictly speaking, a landlord within the definition of a "landlord" in the Bengal Tenancy Act. But one of the Assistant Settlement Officers in Champaran has recently taken the opposite view, and has rejected an application on the ground that the applicant, having temporarily alienated his rights, had no *locus standi*. The latter decision has been appealed against, and the result of the appeal is awaited with interest.

15. *Draft publication.*—This work has been very much delayed, owing to the fact that applications for the enhancement of rents were made in almost every village that was attested during the year. But it was proceeded with as soon as these applications were disposed of, and will be completed very shortly. We have had further serious experience in the course of the year of the delay and extra labour that is caused by the postponement of draft publication until after the disposal of applications for the settlement of rent. In the course of the trial of these applications it is necessary to hear and decide a large number of the objections which should be dealt with formally under section 105, and whatever the decision may be before draft publication, we are bound to reconsider all these objections, should they be put forward again after that publication. Moreover, it is clear that we should not proceed to settle rents on the basis of our record until we have done all we can to correct that record and remove all errors from it, and until all parties have had full opportunity to examine it and ascertain what entries have been made in it. Both the Assistant Settlement Officers, who have been chiefly engaged on this work during the recess, have put up independent notes to me, pointing out the difficulties that have arisen from our hurrying on the disposal of these applications before the parties have had time to assist us to correct the record. For my own part I consider that the raiyat is seriously prejudiced by precipitancy in this matter. In my report on the Saran operations I have referred to this question, and have quoted Mr. Gauntlett's very strong opinion on the subject.

16. *Objections under section 105.*—Owing to the delay in draft publication we have received comparatively few objections relating to the area attested during 1894-95, and nearly all of those which are now pouring in will have to be dealt with during the field season. The majority of those which have as yet been filed are uncontentious, and relate to obvious mistakes in the records, which all parties concerned are desirous of rectifying.

17. *Plaints under section 106.*—In consequence of the order which has been passed by the Government of India, calling for *ad valorem* court-fees in the case of all these complaints, it has been necessary to consider what definite value can be assigned to the decrees given by Revenue officers under this section. Acting on the advice of the Special Judge of Muzaffarpur, I have directed that all these complaints should be classed under Schedule II, clause 17, section 3 of the Court-fees Act, on the ground that it is impossible to attach a definite value to the claim made, and that a declaratory decree is asked for in such cases carrying no specific relief from the defendant, and a fee of Rs. 10 has been called for accordingly in each case. The Board of Revenue has, however, expressed a doubt of the necessity of imposing so high a fee, and final orders are still under consideration. Owing to the delay in draft publication, very few such complaints have been received in connection with the records attested in the past year, and most of those which appear in the statement attached to this report relate to the area attested in 1893-94, and were disposed of in the field season of 1894-95, by Maulvi Gholam Ghous. I have dealt further with the subject of these cases in my report on the settlement operations in Muzaffarpur.

18. *Final publication.*—The records of 247 villages attested in 1893-94 were finally published during the field season of the past year. None of the villages attested in 1894-95 have yet reached that stage.

It has been decided to reserve the realisation of the cost and the distribution of copies of the khatians until a later stage, and these duties do not form part of the work of the kanungoes who make the final publication.

19. *Cost.*—Statement H attached to this report gives details of the cost during the past survey year; but as all our estimates and accounts are made out for the financial year, it is difficult to give correct figures or to compare them with budget estimates. The Saran accounts have now been finally separated from those of Champaran and are kept in the new office opened at Siwan. The cost of settlement work in Champaran should not exceed 4 annas 6 pies per acre, and the total cost of settlement and survey work will not probably be more than 8 annas per acre. The probable total cost of our operations in this district has been discussed in connection with the apportionment question, and it has been decided to calculate the cost for purposes of apportionment at 8 annas an acre.

20. *Statistics of village areas, &c.*—From the records of the villages already attested as shown in Statement E, it will appear that 637 villages have been attested with an area of 917 square miles, and that they contain 827,511 plots and 142,491 tenancies. These figures give an average area of 1.44 of a square mile to each village with 1,299 plots and 223 tenancies. A tenancy contains nearly six fields on an average, and covers 4.26 of an acre, each field measuring .71 of an acre. I think, however, that the figure for number of tenancies is too high, and that the inclusion of the khatians of unoccupied lands in our statistics to some extent vitiates the above figures. More accurate figures for the area of raiyati holdings will be found in paragraph 21 below.

21. *Statistics of status and rent.*—In Statement J attached to this report I have given figures derived from the final terijes of the villages attested up to date as far as we have as yet been able to compile them. But as the new form of compilation for these figures was only recently prescribed, I have not been able to complete the work in time for this report. I hope, however, that the figures that will appear in future statements will be more complete. The following remarks relate of course only to the 475 villages of which figures have been entered in Statement J.

22. Out of the total area of these villages, 383,641 acres, 5,801 acres, or 1.49 per cent., are covered by roads kept up by public funds, or have been occupied by the District Board or Government for public purposes, and 79,999 acres, or 20.55 per cent., are unoccupied and uncultivated. The most interesting statistics relating to the remaining lands are entered in the following table. To avoid confusion, I have omitted figures for under-raiyats, which require no comment:—

CLASS OF HOLDING.	Number of holdings.	Percentage of total.	Area (excluding area paying produce rent).	Average area of each holding.	Area paying produce rent.	Average area paying produce rent per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per area (excluding area paying produce rent).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Proprietors' private lands...	24	.03	359	14.99	...	...	...	...	
2. In the cultivating possession of proprietors, but not private lands.	262	.35	2,633	10.05	...	...	...	...	
3. Cultivated by tenure-holders and farmers.	2,525	3.46	22,758	9.01	...	...	...	...	
4. Raiyats at fixed rates ...	651	.89	7,687	12.28	...	...	6,428	0 13 0	Rent per acre for all lands paying cash rent is Re. 1-7-5.
5. Settled and occupancy raiyats	56,470	77.43	226,666	4.00	17,622	.31	3,328.86	1 7 5	
6. Non-occupancy raiyats ...	9,479	12.99	15,232	1.60	2,861	.31	25,883	1 11 0	
7. Raiyats holding rent-free ...	3,551	4.84	7,641	2.22	...	...	...	...	
Total ...	72,932	...	282,976	3.88	20,583	.31	3,65,142	...	

In heading 3 of the above statement are included not only the lands held by factories and cultivated by them in indigo, but also the holdings of the more important of the holders of rent-free grants who have raiyats cultivating under them and paying rents to them. The majority of the rent-free holders entered in heading 7 are smaller men who hold small jagirs or rent-free grants which they cultivate themselves. The large proportion of raiyats who have been recorded as settled raiyats of the villages they cultivate in is a very satisfactory feature of the statement, but the figures for non-occupancy raiyats continue to give a higher percentage of the total than the corresponding figures in other Bihar districts. There can be little doubt that this is due to the fact that cultivators are more migratory in Champaran, where land is comparatively plentiful, than in Saran and Muzaffarpur, and that they shift their cultivation from village to village more readily. The rents recorded are low, even allowing for comparative poorness of soil; the holdings are of very fair average size, and the proportion of lands held on produce rents is very small. So as far as these figures go, the raiyats of these 475 villages should be fairly prosperous.

23. *Statistics of cultivation.*—In Statement K I have brought together statistics from the *milan khasras* of 438 villages, which is as far as I have progressed with my compilation up to date. I have unfortunately been compelled for the present to omit the statistics of irrigation. The figures as compiled for me are clearly inadequate and do not appear to me to be worth submission. Of the total area of 362,995 acres, 115,646 acres, or 31.85 per cent., are returned as uncultivated, out of which 9,677 acres are current fallow, and the rest is evenly divided between culturable land, such as old fallow and groves, and land not available for cultivation, such as rivers, tank, roads, and the like; 10,680 acres are covered with mango groves, an area which amounts to 2.94 per cent. of the whole area dealt with.

Of the cropped area of 247,349 acres, 105,044 acres, or 42.46 per cent., bear two crops in the year, but this clearly includes the large tracts of rice lands in which thin crops of linseed and khesari are grown after the rice crop has been taken off, and which are practically not much the better for their *rabi* crops. Of the same total 151,901 acres, or 61.41 per cent., bear bhadoi crops, a high figure when compared with those given in the similar statistics for Muzaffarpur. Aghani crops are grown in only 28 per cent. and *rabi* crops cover 53.05 per cent.

24. *Crop statistics.*—The figures in Statement L, which has been compiled for the same area as those in Statement K, speak for themselves. Out of the net cropped area of

247,349 acres, no fewer than 25,053, or 10·12 per cent., are under indigo, notable testimony to the vigour with which this industry has been pushed in the neighbourhood of Motihari and Bettiah. But we shall find a smaller proportion of indigo in the area 1,168 miles we shall attest during the present season, and less still in the northern area in which record-writing is about to be commenced; 89,769 acres, or 36·29 per cent., bear rice. Barley, maize and kodo occupy from 14 to 17 per cent., each, and wheat occupies 6 per cent. Of other noticeable crops, the poppy occupies 13,153 acres, or 5·3 per cent., and some experimental cultivation of coffee in Bettiah covers an area of 56½ acres.

25. *General remarks.*—I have already noted how little friction our operations during the past year have caused. The landlords have met us with courtesy and assistance in almost all cases, and the raiyats have shown an increasing interest in our proceedings and have readily attended our camps and courts. It is, I believe, becoming well understood now that our only anxiety is to secure a correct representation in our record of the facts that we find on the ground, and that we are not to be credited with ulterior designs either on behalf of the landlords or of the tenants or of Government, and I am confident that, in spite of the grumbling that is still heard in some quarters, many even of the grumblers are beginning to see the value of the record that is being prepared. The Bihar Indigo Planters' Association, and particularly its Secretary, Mr. Macnaghten, have rendered valuable aid in the past year as in former years in explaining our procedure to the indigo planters, who are the chief landholders in the district, and in assisting us with information and advice.

Although cases have been brought to notice in which members of the ministerial establishments have earned severe punishment, the subordinate staff has on the whole done good work.

Of the Assistant Settlement Officers under me, Mr. Kerr has distinguished himself by the energy with which he has worked to obtain an insight into all details of our procedure before the commencement of the present field season, and for his careful conduct of the office during my absence on leave. Maulavi Ghulam Ghaus did excellent work while in Motihari, and has done good work in Saran since his transfer there. Pundit Ramaballabh Misra has also come to the front, and has shown an intelligence and aptitude for the work equal to that of any of my assistants. Maulvi Syed Ahmad Ali Khan has done useful work throughout the year, and Babu Narendra Kumar Ghose kept careful watch over khanpuri and dealt with some serious boundary disputes in the most difficult area with which we have to deal.

To Captain, Crichton, Superintendent of Surveys in North Bihar, my special acknowledgments are due for the cordial co-operation shown by him in all matters relating to the record, and for the prompt assistance he has afforded the Settlement Department in improving khanpuri and in carrying out the principles of the joint control under which his establishments are working.

A.—Distribution of Staff.

OFFICERS.	Work engaged on.	Period of employment.	Days on tour.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
E. G. Colvin, Esq., c.s.	Settlement Officer ...	1st October 1894 to 22nd February 1895.	66	
P. C. Lyon, Esq., c.s.	Ditto ditto ...	23rd February to 30th September 1895.	...	
G. A. Bell, Esq., c.s.	Assistant Settlement Officer in-charge.	23rd February to 30th July 1895.	24	
J. H. Kerr, Esq., c.s.	Ditto ditto ...	20th August to 30th September 1895.	3	
Maulavi Syed Ahmed Ali Khan.	Attestation and case-work ...	20th October 1894 to end of year.	246	
Pundit Ramballabh Misra.	Ditto ditto ...	25th October 1894 to end of year.	190	Three weeks' privilege leave in May.
Babu Nolin Chandra Rai.	Attestation ...	24th October 1894 to 18th March 1895.	140	Transferred to Saran.
Maulavi Abdul Hakam.	Ditto ...	5th December 1894 to 11th April 1895.	110	Reverted to general duty.
Maulvi Gholam Ghous.	Attestation and case-work ...	1st October 1894 to 4th April 1895.	...	About the middle of December this officer was re-called to head-quarters to take charge of the office and do case-work. He was transferred to Saran in April.
Maulavi Habibur Rohaman.	Khanapuri ...	2nd February to 4th May 1895.	89	
Babu N. K. Ghose	Ditto ...	26th November 1894 to 2nd May 1895.	146	
Maulavi Abdul Salik.	Ditto ...	10th November 1894 to 2nd May 1895.	169	
Babu Hemangshu Nath Chakravarti.	Ditto ...	1st December 1894 to 2nd May 1895.	145	

These officers all reverted to general duty.

B.—General statement of Progress.

DIVISION.	District.	Name of estate or tract under settlement.	Estimated area in square miles under settlement of revenue or rents.	Total number of villages.	AREA CADASTRAALLY SURVEYED IN SQUARE MILES—			NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN PREPARED FOR ATTESTATION—		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH ATTESTATION HAS BEEN COMPLETED—	
					Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Total are surveyed.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Patna	Champanan	Champanan district	3,531	About 3,000	939'70	1,168	2,107'7	543	1,171	261	373

NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH THE DRAFT RECORD OF RIGHTS HAS BEEN PUBLISHED UNDER SECTION 105 OF THE TENANCY ACT—		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH THE FINAL RECORD OF RIGHTS HAS BEEN PUBLISHED UNDER SECTION 105(2) OF THE TENANCY ACT—		Estimated number of tenants in the villages in column 5.	Number of tenants whose rent has been recorded, and status determined in khattas finally published under section 105(2).	NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM PAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED—					COST DURING THE YEAR.		
Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.			Up to the end of the preceding year.	In the year under report.	Total.	Former rental of tenants of column 21.	New rentals settled for tenants included in column 21.	Survey.	Settlement.	Total.
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
260	251	5	252	653,644	47,855	17,105	17,896	35,001	Rs. 7,53,833	Rs. 2,82,064	Rs. ...	Rs. 57,870	Rs. ...

C.—Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Khanapuri work.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER EMPLOYED.	Name of Circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH KHANAPURI WORK WAS COMPLETED.		Area of villages in which Khanapuri has been completed to end of the year.	Number of villages of which Khanapuri is going on but is incomplete.	Number of villages inspected by Revenue officer during the year.	Number of amies inspected by Revenue officer during the year.	Number of plots of which the khasra entries were tested.	REMARKS.
				Up to end of the previous year.	During the year.						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
District Totals	Champanan	3,000	3,531	543	1,171	2,107'7				966	
				Details of year's work.						2,257	
Maulavi Habibur Rohoman	1	234	265	...	234	265	Nil	76	88	3,070	
Babu N. K. Ghosh	2	228	265	...	228	265	Nil	90	118		
Babu H. N. Chakravati	3	342	316	...	342	316	Nil	150	158	2,254	
Maulavi Abdul Salik	4	367	322	...	367	322	Nil	226	232		
		1,171	1,168	...	1,171	1,168		542	...	17,247	

D.—Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Boundary disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act.

Name of Revenue Officer.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.										REMARKS.		
	Number instituted up to the end of the previous year.	Number instituted during the year.			Total.	Number disposed of to end of the previous year.	Number disposed of during the year.	Total.	Number remaining at the end of the year.				
		Number instituted during the year.	Number disposed of to end of the previous year.	Number disposed of during the year.					Instituted.	Decided.		Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Khanapuri officers	113	366	479	113	362	475	4	25	21	19	1	1	

E.—Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Attestation Work, including final publication of Records.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of Circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.						ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.						REMARKS.
				Number of vil- lages.	square miles.	Number of ten- ants.	Number of plots.	Number of vil- lages.	square miles.	Number of ten- ants.	Number of plots.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
District Totals	Champan	3,000	3,531	261	426.42	68,796	357,851	376	491.45	73,695	470,660	260	316	5	247	
Details of year's work.																
Pundit R. B. Misra	A	94	116.21	...	...	...	...	94	116.21	19,433	121,120	...	83	...	...	...
Maulavi S. A. Ali Khan	B	112	133.33	...	...	...	...	{ 110	131.73	15,347	115,120	...	101	...	...	...
J. H. Kerr, Esq.	C	104	126.37	...	...	...	...	2	1.6	444	1,960	...	...	...	...	...
Maulavi Abdul Hakam	D	66	115.54	...	...	...	...	104	126.37	22,921	130,739	...	80	...	...	...
Babu N. C. Rai				...	...	...	...	66	115.54	15,545	101,701	...	52	...	...	...
Total		376	491.45	...	...	...	...	376	491.45	73,685	470,660	...	316	...	...	...

F.—Settlement Officers' Annual Return of Cases under section 104 of the Tenancy Act for Settlement of Fair Rents.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of Circle.	Area of circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF CASES INSTITUTED.			NUMBER OF CASES DISPOSED OF.			NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED.			Former rental of tenants included in column 12.	New rental settled for tenants in column 12.	NUMBER OF DECISIONS APPEALED AGAINST TO SPECIAL JUDGE.			NUMBER OF DECISIONS OF APPEALS DECIDED.			NUMBER OF DECISIONS OF REVENUE OFFICERS AS IN COLUMN 20—			REMARKS.
			To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.			To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
E. G. Colvin, Esq. Babu P. N. Dutta Maulavi Golam Ghous.	Cases relating to area attested in 1893-94.	...	111 83 54	17 ...	128 83 54	90 83 49	5 ...	95 83 87	5,839 7,788 3,478	336 ...	6,175 7,788 8,188	35,864 48,896 59,796	39,162 55,990 67,484										
C. A. Bell, Esq. ... Pondit R. B. Misra Maulavi Syed Ahmed Ali Khan. J. H. Kerr, Esq. ...	Cases relating to area attested in 1894-95.	...	...	286	286	...	54 109 116	54 109 116	...	1,853 6,867 5,044	1,853 5,867 5,044	19,059 49,677 39,864	21,095 52,826 45,389	24	33	57	18	5	23	15	8	...	
		...	248	303	551	222	323	545	17,105	17,896	35,001	253,833	282,664	24	33	57	18	5	23	15	8	...	

* Thirty-three cases transferred from Mr. Colvin's file to that of Maulavi Golam Ghous.

G.—Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Objections under Section 105, and Disputes under Section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Nature of cases.	Number instituted up to the end of the previous year.	Number instituted during the year.	Total.	Number disposed of to end of the previous year.	Number disposed of during the year.	Total.	Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
									Instituted.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
											Upheld.	Modified.	Reserved.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
All Officers	... (1) Objections heard and considered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act. (2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	2,384 246	1,690 320	4,074 566	2,274 230	1,097 328	3,371 558	703 8	Nil 29	... 4	... 4	... ...	... ...	

H.—Settlement Officers' Annual Financial Statement for Survey year (1894-95) ending 30th September 1895.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment.	Expenditure up to end of the previous year.	Expenditure during the year.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
1. Pay and special allowance of Settlement Officer ...	Rs. 8,875 0 0	Rs. 3,7794 2 5	Rs. 6,479 15 7	
Assistant Settlement Officer ...	23,725 0 0	.....	15,884 3 5	
2. Fixed establishment ...	3,780 0 0	.....	2,337 8 5	
3. Temporary establishment ...	13,359 0 0	9,404 8 10	10,472 10 8	
4. Job work ...	11,370 0 0	2,233 2 9	6,763 9 5	
5. Travelling allowance of officers ...	9,737 8 0	.....	4,772 4 1	
Travelling allowance of establishment ...	4,682 8 0	9,810 6 0	2,303 0 6	
6. Supplies and services ...	1,750 0 0	.....	.....	
Ditto forms ...	.....	.....	.....	
Ditto tents ...	1,250 0 0	2,518 4 0	3,317 0 0	
Petty construction ...	2,000 0 0	4,441 12 0	.....	
Ditto repairs ...	.....	.....	.....	
7. Contingencies ...				
Hot weather charges ...				
Office rent ...	1,623 0 0	3,942 1 10	1,703 12 4	
Service telegrams ...				
Postage ...				
&c. &c. &c. ...				
Miscellaneous ...	2,848 0 0	.....	3,631 0 5	
Total ...	85,000 0 0	70,144 5 10	57,670 3 10	

J.—Statistical statement of status and rent as entered in the Record of Rights.

Serial number.	Tappa.	Villages.	PROPRIETOR'S PRIVATE LANDS.				IN THE CULTIVATING POSSESSION OF THE PROPRIETOR, BUT NOT PRIVATE LANDS.				CULTIVATED BY TENURE-HOLDERS (INCLUDING UNDER-TENURE-HOLDERS).			
			Number of holdings.	Cropped area.	Uncropped area.	Total area.	Number of holdings.	Cropped area.	Uncropped area.	Total area.	Number of holdings.	Cropped area.	Uncropped area.	Total area.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
...	...	475	24	345'80	13'49	359'29	262	2,450'9	173'74	2,632'63	2,525	20,488'82	2,260'38	22,758'20

	RAIYATS AT FIXED RATES OR RENTS.							SETTLED RAIYATS AND OCCUPANCY RAIYATS.							
	Number of holdings.	Cropped area.	Uncropped area.	Total area.	Total cash.	Rate of rent per cropped acre.	Rate of rent per acre for whole holdings.	Number of holdings.	Cropped area, cash paying.	Uncropped area, cash paying.	Total area, cash paying.	Area on produce rent.	Total cash rent.	Rate of rent per cropped acre, cash paying.	Rate of rent per acre of the holdings, including produce rent.
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	651	5,892'17	1,994'68	7,886'85	Rs. A. P. 6,428 2 9	Rs. A. P. 1 1 3	Rs. A. P. 0 13 0	58,470	197,472'30	28,794'34	226,266'64	17,622'19	Rs. A. P. 3,32,826 3 6	Rs. A. P. 1 10 9	Rs. A. P. 1 7 5

	NON-OCCUPANCY RAIYATS (INCLUDING DEARA RAIYATS).								RENT-FREE HOLDERS.			
	Number of hold-ings.	Cropped area, cash paying.	Uncropped area, cash paying.	Total area, cash paying.	Area on produce rent.	Total cash rent.	Rate of rent per cropped area, cash paying.	Rate of rent per acre of holdings including pro-duce rent area.	Number of hold-ings.	Cropped area.	Uncropped area.	Total area.
	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42
	4,979	12,331'44	2,350'54	15,231'98	2,960'89	Rs. 25,888 A. P. 0 2	Rs. A. P. 2 1 0	Rs. A. P. 1 11 0	3,521	5,678'00	2,162'56	7,841'16

	UNOCCUPIED LANDS.		KAISAR-I- HIND.	UNDER-RAIYATS.									
	Number of hold- ings.	Total area.	Total area.	Total area of the villages.	Number of hold- ings.	Cropped area, cash paying.	Uncropped area, cash paying.	Total area, cash paying.	Area on produce rent.	Total cash rent.	Rate of rent per cropped acre cash paying.	Rate of rent per acre of holding including produce rent area.	
	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	
	1,896	79,999'33	5,081'21	388,640'57	5,805	2,877'24	1,146'68	4,023'92	3,421'40	Rs. 5,495	A. P. 0 6	Rs. A. P. 1 10 6	Rs. A. P. 1 5 10

K.—Details of Area.

1	CROPPED AREA.						Current fallow.	CULTURABLE AREA OTHER THAN CURRENT FALLOW.				
	Bhadoi.	Aghani.	Rabi.	Total.	Dofasli.	Net cropped area.		Old fallow.	Mango groves.	Culturable jungle.	Other kinds.	Total.
	2	3	4	5	6	7		9	10	11	12	13
Total, 438 villages.	A. D. 151,900 70	A. D. 69,261 54	A. D. 131,230 25	A. D. 352,392 49	A. D. 105,043 61	A. D. 247,348 68	A. D. 9,676 68	A. D. 37,333 17	A. D. 10,680 26	A. D. 2,574 43	A. D. 1,704 17	A. D. 52,892 03

	AREA NOT AVAILABLE FOR CULTIVATION.				Total uncultivated, columns 8, 13, and 17.	Total area, columns 7 and 18.	NUMBER OF WELLS—		REMARKS.
	House sites.	Water.	Other kinds.	Total.			Masonry.	Earthen.	
	14	15	16	17			20	21	
Total, 438 villages ...	A. D. 3,800 87	A. D. 29,889 34	A. D. 19,386 61	A. D. 53,076 82	A. D. 115,645 73	A. D. 362,994 61	No. 453	No. 69	

L.—Crop Statement.

1	CEREALS AND PULSE.											OIL SEEDS.			
	Rice.	Wheat.	Barley.	Jowar or (millet).	Bajra (millet).	Mandua.	Maize.	Gram.	Kodo.	Sawar.	Other food grains including pulses.	Linseed.	Til or linjili.	Mustard.	Others.
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
43 Villages ...	89,768 96	16,263 28	40,087 38	534 23	35 53	1,351 76	36,258 87	1,626 91	45,172 38	7,864 26	37,668 86	8,433 53	1,012 58	1,452 51	4,321 53

	Condiments and spices.	SUGAR.		FIBRES.				DYES.			DRUGS AND NARCOTICS.						
		Sugarcane.	Others.	Cotton.	Jute.	Hemp.	Others.	Indigo.		Others.	Opium.	Coffee.	Tea.	Tobacco.	Cinchona.	Indian hemp.	Others.
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33
43 Villages ...	5,253 04	1,705 71	0 84	1,069 03	1,57 68	21 23	80 38	25,053 87	...	28 44	13,158 69	56 52	...	156 58	...	0 07	...

	Fodder Crops.	Thatching grass.	Garden produce and orchards other than mango groves.	MISCELLANEOUS CROPS.				Total.	Area cropped more than once.	(41-42) Net area cropped.
				Potatoes.	Yams.	Porolah.	Non-food.			
	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43
43 Villages ...	...	6,375 30	1,255 52	1,804 42	2,563 12	350 41	1,894 08	352,392 49	105,043 61	247,348 88

P. C. LYON,

Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX X.

No. A.T., dated Muzaffarpur, the 26th October 1895.

From—P. C. LYON, Esq., Settlement Officer, Saran,
To—The Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith my annual report on the settlement operations now under my charge in Saran for the year between 1st October 1894 and 30th September 1895.

1. *Notifications.*—The settlement operations in Saran were confined to the area brought under Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act by two notifications, No. 4318L.R., dated 13th October 1893, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 18th October 1893, and No. 5302L.R., dated 22nd December 1893, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 7th December 1893. Notification No. 1390L.R. of the 10th March 1894, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 14th idem, made some verbal amendments in these notifications. No fresh area was taken up for cadastral survey or record-writing in Saran during the year under report.

2. *Programme.*—The programme of work for the year was :—

- (1) Completion of case work and final publication of the records of the 68 villages attested during 1893-94.
- (2) Attestation of the villages in 487 square miles in which khauapuri had been completed during 1893-94.
- (3) The disposal of applications for settlement of rent under section 104 of the Bengal Tenancy Act, draft publication and the disposal of objections under section 105, and disputes under section 106 of the same Act within the same area.

3. *Staff of officers and distribution of work.*—Mr. Colvin was in charge of the operation in this district up to the 23rd February 1895, when he was unfortunately compelled by ill-health to take privilege leave for two months. On his departure I took over charge of this work, in addition to my other duties, and Mr. C. A. Bell, who was appointed Assistant Settlement Officer in charge at Motihari, assisted me in correspondence and office work relating to this district, as well as to Champaran. From the 1st May, however, these operations were placed by me in the subordinate charge of Mr. M. F. Gauntlett, as Assistant Settlement Officer in charge, and the work was definitely separated from that in Champaran, with which it had been previously amalgamated, a new office being opened in Siwan. Although some difficulty was experienced in dividing off the work and in organising the new office, the change has proved advantageous, and is working well. In statement A is given full information as to the staff employed under the Settlement Officer during the past year, the period for which each officer was employed, and the number of days he was on tour.

4. *Record-writing.*—There was no cadastral survey or record-writing in Saran during the year under report.

5. *Attestation work.*—The attestation of 487 square miles was completed during the field season. This area was divided into 5 circles each under an Assistant Settlement Officer. No circle was under 90 square miles in area, and none over 100 square miles. Munshi Nandji and Babus Hem Chandra Chatterjee and Makhan Lal Chatterjee started work late in October. Mr. Gauntlett and Maulvi Ashfaq Hossain started about the middle of November; Munshi Nandji was also occupied in finishing case work and finally publishing the records of the villages he had attested in the preceding year. The average outturn of work anticipated by the Settlement Officer was the attestation of 25,000 plots per month, and in favourable circumstances, this number could be and was exceeded, but in villages in which the work was complicated by disputes among tenure-holders, or by careless khauapuri, it was found impossible to maintain this standard. On the 22nd of March, Mr. Gauntlett was deputed on special duty and Babu Nalin Chandra Rai was sent from Motihari to finish the work in his circle. Babu Hem Chandra Chatterji and Maulvi Ashfaq Hossain finished attestation about the end of April, Babus Makhan Lal Chatterji and Nalin Chandra Rai finished early in May and Munshi Nandji about the end of May. Maulvi Ashfaq Hossain and Babu Nalin Chandra Rai then reverted to general duty, while Babus Hem Chandra Chatterji and Makhan Lal Chatterji started case work under section 104.

6. The character of the attestation work was very different from that of the work in Muzaffarpur, and the difficulties encountered differed correspondingly. The whole area practically being under one proprietor, the work was in many respects simplified and the proprietary khewats were easy to prepare and to attest. But the very great care with which the Hathwa Raj looked after its own interests, caused many disputes, of which not a few were unnecessary ones raised by over zealous servants of the proprietor, or were the inevitable consequence of the very sweeping claims made by the Raj with respect to the record of private lands, of rent-free lands, and of rights in trees.

7. The question of the record of private lands, with the orders passed relating to it, has been fully discussed elsewhere and has formed the subject of a separate report. I need only say here that the claims made by the agents of the Raj appear to me to have been in many cases exaggerated and to have caused much avoidable delay and labour at the attestation stage.

8. With regard to birit lands, that is, lands held on rent-free grants originally made on religious grounds, there were disputes both between the Raj and the biritdars, and among the biritdars themselves. The biritdars "could seldom produce sanads," and when they could produce sanads, they were often found to hold more land than their "sanads" authorised. They were often found to be holding more land, even, than was measured as their "birit" during the measurement by the Court of Wards, 20 years ago. Many old established "birits" again had been so minutely subdivided between the descendants of the original grantees, that the apportionment of the lands and of the shares in the lands and the record of that apportionment became exceedingly difficult. The "biritdars" quarrelled about their shares; an influential sharer was often found in possession of a greater area than his share would justify; the raiyats sometimes could not, and often would not, state to whom their rents were due, and very rarely was there any agreement as to the rent actually paid. Jamabandis or receipts were very rarely to be found, and when produced, proved of little or no value as evidence. Moreover, the rights of a settled raiyat as the possessor of occupancy rights in all lands held by him in a village, whether under one landlord or several, appeared to be absolutely unknown and unrecognised by the "*biritdar*" landlords.

9. The question as to the rights of the Raj in trees has also produced some difficulty. It is practically impossible for the Raj to take their share of the produce from all the trees they claim to be held on a produce-rent. The consequence is that the Raj or the farmer to whom a village may have been leased may have only occasionally exercised the rights claimed. This uncertainty has naturally led both the Raj and the raiyat into disputes as to rights in trees in which both parties made their claims in perfect good faith.

10. Mr. Colvin visited the work in Saran in November, and made a full inspection of the whole of the attestation work in January. After taking over charge from him in February, I visited all the attestation camps in Saran early in March, and, again, at the close of April, I met all the Attestation Officers at Hathwa and arranged with them for the winding up of their work, the correction and arrangement of their records, and the commencement of the recess work.

11. Owing to the attitude taken by the Hathwa Raj, with reference to the settlement of fair rents, this work has assumed very large proportions. The agents of the landlord have received instructions to petition for the assessment to rent of all lands found in excess of those held by each raiyat or his predecessor in interest at the time of the measurement of the estate, 20 years ago, and at the same time, to raise rates under section 30 of the Bengal Tenancy Act in all cases in which the holders of excess lands were found to hold at favourable rates. At the same time it has unfortunately not seemed good to those responsible for these instructions to meet the case of those raiyats who are now found to have less lands than those on which they are assessed to rent. Instead of assisting our courts to deal with such cases, the agents of the Raj have undoubtedly thrown difficulties in the way, and have frequently opposed applications for a reduction of rent on account of a decrease in area, on grounds that have been shown to be frivolous. I am bound to say that the Manager of the Raj has disowned such action when it has been brought to his notice, but I have heard of no such orders being issued as would have explained to the amla concerned that they were actively to encourage such applications, and that the proprietor was as anxious to remit the rents of those who had lost lands, as he was desirous of enhancing the rents of those who had gained. Indeed, I have a letter before me now from the acting Manager, in which he asks me to direct my Assistant Settlement Officers to discontinue allowing full reduction to the raiyats when their areas are found to have diminished, on the ground that the Raj has made an allowance in the case of excess areas. The latter allowance was due to the severe accuracy of our present measurement, and of our methods of calculating areas, and it seems neither fair nor equitable that when a raiyat's lands are shown to have decreased, we should at once assume that they have been less accurately measured now than in the former survey. But I am in hopes that the view expressed in the letter I refer to, will not be pressed upon us, and that the more liberal counsels that have hitherto guided the proprietor's policy in these matters, will again prevail.

12. As will be shown below in the details of the cases, the result of the action taken by the Raj has been to make a most substantial addition to the proprietors' rent-roll which had not previously been enhanced for 20 years and then only by the assessment of excess areas and, however liberally the costs of our proceedings may be calculated, and including all law expenses, there can be no doubt that in this respect this landlord has no reason to complain. He will, on the contrary, be a substantial gainer financially by the cadastral survey of his estates and will practically obtain maps and records for the whole area dominated by him, free of cost. The addition to his rent-roll has already reached a sum of Rs. 30,000 and will probably amount to half a lakh of rupees before the enhancement cases are over.

13. In thus applying largely for enhancement of rents, I do not wish to suggest that the proprietor has been in any way going beyond his legal rights, and I am desirous of acknowledging to the full, the intelligent consideration with which all suggestions or objections raised by us, have been met by the Manager. The position of the Raj in the matter of assessing excess lands is a very strong one, owing to the excellence of the records which have been prepared for the estate, and which are carefully maintained, and the raiyats' knowing this, and unwilling to oppose their landlord, are undoubtedly wise in coming to terms and compromising cases put in against them. But when enhancements are claimed under the "prevailing rate" clause, and it is well known by the Raj agents that it is almost impossible for them to prove their claims, I look with some suspicion on the compromises which are pressed on the acceptance of our courts. In the case of a landlord who wields the power over his

raiylats, that is undoubtedly an attribute of the proprietor on the Hathwa Raj, it is not probable that raiylats will contest claims for enhancement made by him, but it is natural to doubt whether the agreements to pay enhancements, which amount in many cases to from 20 to 30 per cent. are so spontaneous as the local agents of the Raj would have us to believe.

14. In the area of 506 square miles that has been attested up to date, no fewer than 2,920 applications for the settlement of fair rents have been received. Some of these have been applications by the raiylats for reduction of rent, but by far the most important have been those put in by the Hathwa Raj for enhancement. In most of the villages dealt with, over 1,200 in all, 2 or more applications have been made by the Raj agents, one for enhancement, on the ground of excess area only and the other, on the ground of the lowness of the rate, as well as on that of increase in area: 20,209 raiylats have been involved in the cases filed, of whom about 17,000 have come to terms with the Raj, and have compromised by accepting an allowance of 1 katha in the bigha on the excess area, and agreeing to the enhancements asked for. When cases have been contested, the Raj has, in almost all cases, been able to prove the alleged increase in area, but has failed to sustain its claims for an enhancement of the rate of rent. The cause of its failure in the latter case is the fact that the estate papers do not show rates for different classes of lands, or even for different holdings. The tenants of Raj lands invariably hold on a lump rental, the component parts of which may have originally been separately discernible, but have now been permanently amalgamated and lost to view. The result is, that although it is easy to ascertain at what individual rate any tenant is holding the lands comprising his whole tenancy, it is impossible to say what the rate is for each of the separate blocks of which it may be comprised and to prove from the estate records what the prevailing rate for any particular class of lands may be.

15. In statement D attached to this report is shown the distribution of this case work, which has occupied 4 officers continuously throughout the recess, and has also taken up a great deal of the time of the Assistant Settlement Officer in charge. In anticipation of heavy and difficult work under this section, I transferred Maulvi Gholam Ghaus to Saran early in April, to commence dealing with these cases, and to ascertain as far as possible, in what proportion of them the raiylats would prove anxious to compromise, and what peculiar difficulties might be met with in this district. Maulvi Gholam Ghaus had already had considerable experience of this work in Champaran, and had shown himself a particularly competent officer, and his deputation to Saran was most useful to me and to the officers who subsequently took up this work. Munshi Nandji, Babu Makhan Lall Chatterji, and Babu Hem

Munshi Nandji appears to have been dealing with more substantial tenants, having larger tenancies and paying larger rents (I do not know that the rents were at higher rates) than the tenants with whom the other officers have been dealing. I notice that Munshi Nandji has given a smaller percentage of increase than any other officer in Saran.

W. C. M.

Chandra Chatterjee began to deal with enhancement work on completion of their attestation duties, and Mr. Gauntlett also devoted much time to case work as soon as he could spare it from his office duties in Siwan. The cases in Munshi Nandji's circle have been more contested than those in the other circles, but even making allowance for this fact, his outturn of work has fallen below the standard reached by the other officers.

In statement F. I have shown the grounds on which the various enhancements were leased. It will be seen that by far the greatest enhancements have been made for increase in area, and that the total net enhancement amounts to Rs. 29,627 or 13·85 per cent. on the original rental. As may have been gathered from my remarks in preceding paragraphs, the enhancement under section 30 is mainly due to compromises.

16. The work has been carefully watched by me and Mr. Gauntlett throughout the recess. In April I met all the Assistant Settlement Officers and the representatives of the Raj at Hathwa, and issued careful instructions regarding the treatment of all applications for enhancement. In June I visited Siwan to look into progress, and early in July I again met all the Assistant Settlement Officers, discussed the whole conduct of this work with them, and issued a series of fresh instructions to meet the difficulties that had arisen in the course of the work, and at the end of the same month I accompanied the Director to Hathwa and was present at the conferences held by him with the Assistant Settlement Officers and the representatives of the Raj.

17. A few other points of interest have arisen in the course of the work, under section 104 of the Tenancy Act which are worthy of notice here. In my letter No. 196 dated 15th July 1895, I forwarded a note by Munshi Nandji submitted at my request, on the subject of prescribing a progressive rate of increase in decrees enhancing rents under section 104 for excess in area. Munshi Nandji was easily able to show the equity of such a course in cases in which the increase of rent was unusually heavy, and he also pointed out that this procedure had been approved by the Board of Revenue in the case of the Dubalhati estate, and also at page 15 of the Settlement Manual of 1888. On the other hand I was unable to issue instructions in accordance with these views, with which every one who has experience of enhancement work agrees, owing to the clear instructions given by Mr. Gordon, the Special Judge of Saran and Champaran, in a recent appeal from a decree under the same section, that "additional rent for excess land is not enhanced rent, and section 36, which relates to enhancement only, has no application to such a case." It is undoubtedly much to be regretted that we should be debarred from granting an obviously equitable relief on such technical grounds, but I do not think that I am competent to issue instructions which are not in accordance with the Special Judge's ruling, until that ruling has been in some way superseded.

18. A second point worthy of notice is the failure of the plaintiff in every case to substantiate by legal proof his claims to an enhancement on the ground of a rise in the price of

food-crops, under section (30) (b) of the Bengal Tenancy Act. As a matter of fact, there has undoubtedly been a general rise in the price of food-crops, but it cannot be proved in court for special local areas without very careful marshalling of evidence in each case. On this subject Mr. Gauntlett has sent me some interesting notes, and has pointed out that the Hathwa Raj might have proved its claim to an enhancement up to 30 or 40 per cent. under this section alone, had its evidence been carefully put before the courts, and he gives me reasons to believe that this enhancement would have been wholly inequitable and that the enhancement would have been made on the ground of a supposed improvement in the position of the raiyat which has not taken place. After giving me some carefully worked out statistics to show that the Saran district does not produce food-crops in sufficient quantities to feed its own enormous population, and that, in consequence, the raiyat on an average rarely produces more food than he and his family consume themselves, he goes on to say "Looking at it from a general point of view, the section is faulty, while in its application to specific instances it becomes still more inequitable. There are very many raiyats who rely entirely upon their opium and indigo lands to pay their rents, consuming the whole of their other produce. But opium and indigo are never taken into consideration in dealing with claims

But is it the case that there has been no rise in the price paid for opium and in the consideration paid to the raiyats for growing indigo?

W. C. M.

for enhancement on the ground of a rise in the price of food-crops, so that the law would apparently permit his rent to be enhanced from 30 to 40 per cent. on account of a rise in prices which benefits him not at all. It is no argument to say that if he did not produce the crops, he would have to buy them at the increased price. The argument is that the raiyat receives much more money for the produce that he sells and therefore he can pay a higher rate of rent, and the law takes no consideration of the proportion of the produce he sells, and the proportion he consumes." And in a later letter Mr. Gauntlett quotes some passages from the Commissioner's Annual Report on the administration of the Patna Division for 1894-95, which would appear to militate strongly against this provision of the law. He writes:—"From section 97 of that report, printed at page 2108 of the *Calcutta Gazette* of October 9th, 1895, it will be seen that the total exports of food grains from Saran by rail in 1894-95, amounted to 173,058 maunds, while the imports by rail come to 2,899,012 maunds," and in paragraph 108, the Commissioner writes, also with reference to Saran "There is also a large river-borne traffic of which we have no statistics. The Collector roughly estimates this traffic at about half of that carried by the railway, and he also appears to think that it is, as regards food-grains and other country produce, chiefly export traffic." Now the total railway traffic in food-grains is 30,72,070 maunds, say, 31,00,000 maunds. Suppose the river traffic to be roughly 15,00,000 maunds, of which $\frac{2}{3}$ are exports and $\frac{1}{3}$ imports. This would give 12,00,000 maunds exports and 3,00,000 maunds imports. The total export of food grains from the district would, therefore, be 14,00,000 maunds and the imports 32,00,000 maunds, giving a balance against the district of 18,00,000 maunds."

I think that the views set forward by Mr. Gauntlett are worthy of very careful consideration, and I may add from my own experience that in the very populous areas in the south of the Muzaffarpur district which in many respects resemble the area we have dealt with in Saran, there is a large import of food grains, the chief exports being tobacco, opium, and indigo. It seems more than doubtful whether, in such circumstances, a rise in the price of food crops is a valid ground for an enhancement of rent.

19. The last point that I would note before leaving the subject of enhancement cases, is the serious effect that the rule postponing draft publication until after the decision of these cases has, both on the cases themselves and on all our other work. In the Director's note, dated August 14th, the subject is thus referred to:—"Munshi Nandji is of opinion that draft publication should precede settlement of rents. Frequent adjustment of fields and tenancies has to be made after the decision of objections under section 105, and this affects rents settled under section 104. He sees no reason for another draft publication after settlement under section 104. He thinks that draft publication should follow as soon as possible after attestation, when the attestation is still fresh in the minds of the raiyats. Munshi Nandji would allow applications for settlement of rents to be made after draft publication, say, for a period of one month." This subject is also touched upon in the Champaran report, and I think that every Assistant Settlement Officer under me, in the four districts with which I have to deal, who has given any consideration to the subject, agrees generally with Munshi Nandji's views as expressed above. Mr. Gauntlett has himself very strong opinions on the subject, and in all his views as to the necessity for correcting and improving our record as far as possible before we take up applications for the settlement of fair rents, I cordially agree. He writes to me:—"We have had the strongest proof that fair rent cases ought to be taken up as late as possible, when the record is otherwise complete. Raiyats, who have been otherwise perfectly willing to compromise, have refused to do so, because they are not sure that their holdings have been correctly entered in our papers. In consequence of this the Raj have had to employ large establishments to explain once again to the raiyats the entries which have been made in their name. This

It is impossible for the Assistant Settlement Officers to do all the preliminary work of explanation. But it is laid down that every tenant is to pass before a Revenue Officer at attestation time and is to hear from him or from a Bench Clerk, reading in his presence the essential entries concerning his tenancy, viz., total area, rent and status.

W. C. M.

has not been quite satisfactory, as the raiyats are not satisfied unless the entries are explained by the Assistant Settlement Officer, which is clearly impossible in all cases. Moreover, the Assistant Settlement Officer has often

to correct the records, sometimes very considerably, before he can decide the case, and he

I find that this is everywhere recognised. Adjustments of fields are constantly made in connection with the proceedings for settlement of rents. The more carefully attestation is done the, less adjustments will be required.

W. C. M.

Officer settles the rent of one of the parties in the dispute according to the orders which he

This is undoubtedly a difficulty. The Revenue Officer must review the fair rent settled in such cases; and the cumbrousness of the procedure impedes him. To set himself in motion as a judicial officer reviewing his decision, he must give notice to persons concerned and he can act only when an aggrieved person has gone through legal forms. The Advocate-General has advised that a Revenue Officer cannot review his decisions at all; but the Special Judges fortunately hold otherwise, and so long as the Special Judges continue of this kind Revenue Officers must review their fair rent decisions when circumstances require.

W. C. M.

case under section 104, will involve at the same time a fresh decision as to the fair rent settled. At present it seems uncertain whether this can be legally done. If not, the result would be inequitable; if it can, our work under section 105 and section 106 will greatly increase.

All these difficulties would vanish if the case work could be decided, upon a record as complete and correct as it can be made, just before final publication. I am strongly of opinion that all case work under section 105, and perhaps under section 106, should be completed before settlement of rents under section 104 is undertaken. The raiyat need be under no mistake as to the rent he will have to pay, as that will be clearly explained to him when the decision is delivered and the only possible objection he can lodge will be that the rent entered in the khatian is not in accordance with the decision, and the Settlement Officer could always have that checked.

20. *Draft Publication.*—In consequence of the presentation of applications for settlement of fair rent in almost every village, no draft publication could be done until records were returned by the officers engaged in dealing with these applications, after their disposal, and only 265 villages have been published in draft during the year, out of 1160 attested. To all that has been noted in the preceding paragraph, may be added the further grave objection to the rule that postponed draft publication until after settlement of rent, that it causes the most serious delay in our work, by postponing the writing of our tirijs, the disposal of objections and disputes, the final check of the records, and, ultimately, the copying of them and their final publication. Draft publication has been pressed on as fast as possible; there are no arrears and four kanungoes are now in constant work.

21. *Objections under section 105.*—Work under this section has barely commenced. The agents of the Raj have been granted a small extension of time within which to file their petitions and have put in very few as yet. The case officers who are to continue on duty in the district throughout the cold weather will take up the objections that may be filed, as well as the cases under section 104 and section 106. Eighty-seven objections, referring to villages attested by Munshi Nandji in the previous year, were disposed of by that officer during the year, but of 415 objections relating to the area attested in the last year, all of which have been very recently filed, only 11 have as yet been decided. It is impossible to forecast accurately even yet, the number of such objections we are likely to receive, but Mr. Gauntlett estimates that they will amount to over 3,000.

22. *Disputes under section 106.*—Ten cases pending from last year have been disposed of. Only 23 such cases have been filed this year, and those quite recently, of which 11 have been disposed of. But work in the new area, under this section, has only just begun.

23. *Final Publication.*—The final publication of 57 out of 68 villages attested by Munshi Nandji in 1893-94 has been carried out.

24. *Cost.*—I am unable to give any figures under this head which can prove satisfactory. The accounts for Saran have only very recently been separated from those for Champaran, and no debit has yet been made an account of the pay of the Settlement Officer, and of the Motihari office during the time that Motihari was the head quarters of the settlement work. It may be noted that the heavy case work has brought in a large income in the shape of court-fees. A sum of Rs. 23,679 has already been realised as fees of all kinds, out of which Rs. 23,413 are for court-fees alone. This sum will have to be set against the total cost of our operations when the time comes for apportioning the cost.

25. *Statistics of areas of villages, &c.*—The 1,228 villages that have been attested, contain 324,000 acres, 782,688 plots and 130,445 separate tenancies. These figures give an average of 263 acres, 637 plots and 106 tenancies in each village, and 1,546 plots and 257 tenancies in each square mile. Each field is 41 of an acre, and each tenancy contains six fields or 246 acres. It may be anticipated that the great subdivision of proprietary rights that obtains in the remainder of the district will have the result of slightly increasing the number of the fields, and largely increasing the number of separate tenancies in each square mile. If this anticipation proves correct, the difficulties of our work will be very much increased and the labour of preparing, attesting, correcting and determining our records will be as great in Saran as it has already proved in Muzaffarpur.

26. *Statistics of status &c.*—I much regret that, owing to the impossibility of our preparing final tirijs, due to the incompleteness of our records, I am unable to give figures for

status and rent, such as those given in the Gaya and Champaran reports, but in statement H, I have given a classified list of tenancies, showing that, out of 112,347 tenancies for which the list has been prepared, 80 per cent. are those of settled raiyats. I hope in future years to be able to compile complete figures from the final tirijs for the whole of the area that may have been attested up to date.

As regards rent I have no accurate figures at present, but I have ascertained that in 14 square miles of the area attested by Munshi Nandji in 1893-94, the rate of rent was about 4-12 per acre.

27. *Details of cultivation.*—In statement J figures have been compiled from the khasras of 1,040 villages to show the distribution of cultivation, and figures for irrigation. It will be seen from that statement that the area cultivated in rabi crops forms a very large percentage of the net cropped area, and that nearly 40 per cent. of that area is cropped twice. Of the total area of the villages for which the figures have been compiled, only 12 per cent., is culturable, but uncultivated; even including the often valuable mango groves, which cover more than 4 per cent., out of the total area, and nearly a third of the uncultivated cultivable land.

In addition to this another 6 per cent., is uncultivated and unculturable. Of the net cropped area, over 23 per cent. is irrigated, and out of this area 64 per cent. is irrigated from wells, and 26 per cent. from tanks. The wells number 3,681, of which 87 per cent. are pukka. They irrigate 8 acres each on an average, and number one to every 61 acres of the net cropped area.

The irrigation being chiefly from wells and tanks, there is very little irrigations of rice lands, except when a rabi crop is also grown in them, and the chief food crops irrigated are barley, wheat and maize. Of the 8,600 acres of non-food crops returned as irrigated most are probably under poppy.

28. *Crop statistics.*—The figures in statement K speak for themselves. Rice occupies 29 per cent. of the net cropped area, barley 23 per cent., Indian corn 16 per cent., and wheat 8 per cent. The poppy is grown in over 4 per cent., a large area, considering the value of the crop, and indigo in only 2 per cent. The small area under sweet potatoes, barely over 1 per cent., is noticeable.

29. *Office accommodation.*—In consequence of the opening of a new office at Siwan, it became necessary to build for its accommodation. Sanction for a new building was not obtained until the month of May, when Mr. H. H. Green, the Executive Engineer of the Gandak Division, drew out a plan for a building, in consultation with me, and put it in hand at once. The work was pushed on and was completed in August, at a cost of something over Rs. 8,000. The new office is commodious and suitable, and our acknowledgments are due to Mr. Green for the trouble taken by him to get it ready with the least possible delay.

30. *General remarks.*—The excellence of the management of the Hathwa Raj has been most conspicuous throughout our operations. The completeness of the village papers maintained, the accuracy of the local knowledge displayed by its agents, and the success with which the Manager and his subordinates collect rents in full and yet maintain the popularity of the Raj among the raiyats are all equally noticeable, and I must again acknowledge, on my own behalf and on behalf of my Assistants, the promptitude and intelligence with which all our demands on the Raj establishments have been met. The Manager, Babu Bipin Bihari Bose, has himself taken an active interest in our proceedings, and has proved himself invariably ready to deal quickly and firmly with any complaints we have had to make, and to courteously meet our wishes whenever it was in his power.

Our relations with the people generally have been consistently cordial. Our operations have been followed with a keener interest and appreciation in this district than anywhere else in Bihar, and although there have of course been instances of opposition, there has been clear evidence to show that our objects in preparing the record are understood and appreciated by almost all classes.

31. It is not perhaps my place to speak of the loss sustained by the work in being deprived of the services of Mr. Colvin so soon after he had organised the whole of the field season's operations, and had successfully started them, but this report would be incomplete without some such reference.

Whether in attestation, the disposal of cases, general supervision, or office details, I have found Mr. Gauntlett's work of the very best quality, and his personal enthusiasm and energy, combined with the experience he has gained of the work in this district in two field seasons, have been of the greatest assistance to me. Much hard labour has been performed by almost all the other Assistant Settlement Officers, but Maulvi Gholam Ghau's work has been noticeably good.

A.—Staff of officers employed.

NAME.	Work engaged on.	Period of employment.	Number of days spent on tour.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
M. F. Gauntlett, Esq., ...	Attestation, case work and general supervision.	From November 10th, 1894, to the end of the year. Attestation from 10th November 1894 to 22nd March 1895. Case work and general supervision from 25th April to 25th September 1895. Throughout the year.	188	On special duty in Arrah from 22nd March to 25th April 1895.
Munshi Nandij ...	Attestation and case work.	Attestation from 29th October 1894 to 19th May 1895. Case work from 1st to 25th October 1894 and 20th May to 25th September 1895.	207	.....
Babu Hem Chandra Chatterji.	Ditto	From November 6th, 1894, to September 4th 1895. Attestation from 6th November 1894 to 22nd April 1895. Subsequently employed on case work.	168	Privilege leave for 1 month and 26 days from the 4th September 1895.
Babu Makhan Lal Chatterji.	Ditto	From October 26th, 1894, to the end of the year. Attestation from 26th October 1894 to 10th May 1895. Subsequently employed on case work.	327	.....
Maulvi Ashfaq Hussain ...	Attestation	From October 26th, 1894, to May 4th, 1895.	189	Reverted to general duty.
Maulvi Golam Ghaus ...	Case work	From 7th April 1895 to the close of the year.	153	Transferred from Charn-paran.
Babu Nalin Chandra Rai	Attestation	From 22nd March 1895 to 14th May 1895.	53	Transferred from Charn-paran. Reverted to general duty.

B.—General Statement of Progress.

Division.	District.	Name of estate or tract under settlement.	Estimated area in square miles under settlement of revenue rents.	Total number of villages.	AREA CADASTRALLY SURVEYED IN SQUARE MILES.		NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH RECORDS OF RIGHTS HAVE BEEN PREPARED FOR ATTESTATION—		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH THE DRAFT RECORD OF RIGHTS HAS BEEN PUBLISHED UNDER SECTION 105(1) OF THE TENANCY ACT—		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH THE FINAL RECORD OF RIGHTS HAS BEEN PUBLISHED UNDER SECTION 105(2) OF THE TENANCY ACT—		Estimated number of tenants in the villages in column 6.		Number of tenants whose rent has been re-corded and status determined in khatahs of Bengal Tenancy Act.		Up to the end of the preceding year.		In the year under report.		Total.		Former rental of tenants included in column 21.		New rental settled for tenants included in column 21.		Survey.	Settlement.	Total.
					Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	36,460 3 3	36,400 3 3
Patna	...	Saran	The whole district.	Square miles. 2,653	4,296	549	...	549	1,229	...	68	1,160	68	265	...	57	600,900	24,190	426	19,788	20,209	280,707	280,774	...	...	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	36,460 3 3	36,400 3 3

E.—Statement showing the grounds for the enhancements made under section 104.

Total rent attested.	Total enhancement under section 39 (prevailing rate).	Percentage on column 1.	Total enhancement under section 52 (excess area).	Percentage on column 1.	Total diminution under section 52-17b (decreased area).	Percentage on column 1.	Net enhancement made.	Percentage on column 1.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Rs. A. P. 2,13,810 3 6	Rs. A. P. 2,547 6 3	4.46	Rs. A. P. 22,153 10 3	10.36	Rs. A. P. 2,073 4 3	.97	Rs. A. P. 29,627 2 3	13.85	These figures are not available for all the cases decided, so the total in columns 1 and 5 will not agree with those in columns 13 and 14 of statement D.

F.—Returns of Objections under section 105 and Disputes under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Nature of case.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF—			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF THE UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
		Up to the end of the pre- vious month, including cases pending on 30th September of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending on 30th September of preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of of the Revenue Officer has been—			
											Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
All officers ...	(1) Objections heard and considered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act.	1,034	415	1,449	947	98	1,045	404	..	...	...	...	...	
Ditto ...	(2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	41	23	64	31	21	52	12	2	...	...	...	...	

G.—Cost during the year.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Expenditure during year.	REMARKS.
1	2	3
	Rs.	
1. Pay and special allowance of—		
Assistant Settlement Officer in charge ...	4,000	
Assistant Settlement Officers ...	15,604	Share of pay of Settlement Officer not debited yet.
2. Fixed establishment ...	.....	
3. Temporary establishment ...	10,912	
4. Contract and job work ...	889	
5. Travelling allowance—		
Of officers ...	4,341	
Of establishment ...	16	
6. Supplies and services—		
Forms ...	...	
Tents ...	.....	
Petty construction ...	.....	
" repairs ...	.....	
7. Contingencies—		
Hot-weather charges ...	...	
Office rent ...	...	
Service telegrams ...	...	
" postage charges ...	...	
Miscellaneous ...	148	
&c. &c. &c.		
Total ...	37,091	

H.—Status Return for the year ending September 1895.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	Number of holding attested.	Percentage of total.	
1	2	3	4
1. Proprietors' private lands ...	2,586	2.30	Includes land cultivated by farmers.
2. Held by proprietors but not private lands.	776	.69	
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holder.	659	.58	
4. Raiyat at fixed rates or rent ...	205	.18	
5. Settled raiyat ...	89,961	80.07	
6. Occupancy raiyat ...	24	.01	
7. Non-occupancy raiyat ...	7,176	6.38	
8. Rent-free holder ...	10,960	9.75	
Total ...	112,847		

J.—Details of area.

NUMBER OF VILLAGES.	CROPPED AREA.						CULTURABLE AREA OTHER THAN CURRENT FALLOW.						AREA NOT AVAILABLE FOR CULTIVATION.															
	Aghani.			Rabi.			Current fallow.			Old fallow.			Mango groves.		Culturable jungle.		Other kinds.		Total.		House sites.		Water.		Other kinds.		Total.	
	Bhadai.					Total.	Dofasli.	Net cropped area.																				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17												
1040	A. D. 105,246 72	A. D. 56,755 54	A. D. 148,950 97	A. D. 310,953 24	A. D. 88,767 18	A. D. 222,186 06	A. D. 1,872 55	A. D. 19,032 39	A. D. 11,121 02	A. D. 1,494 14	A. D. 209 31	A. D. 31,866 88	A. D. 2,685 18	A. D. 5,929 42	A. D. 8,768 13	A. D. 15,372 73												

NUMBER OF VILLAGES.	IRRIGATED AREA AND HOW IRRIGATED.						DETAILS OF IRRIGATED AREA AS REGARDS CROPS.						NUMBER OF WELLS.			REMARKS.												
	Total area cultivated columns 8, 13 and 17.			Irrigated area.			Irrigated from wells.			Irrigated from Government canals.			Irrigated from private canals.				Irrigated from tanks and ahars.											
	18		19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33											
1040	A. D. 49,102 17	A. D. 271,238 23	A. D. 49,729 87	A. D. 31,716 10	A. D. 118 75	A. D. 2,433 37	A. D. 12,945 94	A. D. 2,515 69	A. D. 1,021 04	A. D. 5,613 20	A. D. 31,332 29	A. D. 3,161 65	A. D. 8,601 63	Number 3,424	Number 267													

K.—Crop Statement.

NUMBER OF VILLAGES.	CEREALS AND PULSES.												OILSEEDS.				SUGAR.		FIBRES.			
	Rice.	Wheat.	Barley.	Jowar (millet).	Bajra (millet).	Mandua.	Maize.	Gram.	Kodo.	Maghar.	Other food grains, includ- ing pulses.	Linseed.	Til (milt).	Mustard.	Others.	Condiments and spices.	Sagarcana.	Others.	Cotton.	Jute.	Sisal.	Others.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
1,040	A. D. 64,847 43	A. D. 17,503 07	A. D. 50,154 60	A. D. 147 87	A. D. 9,116 61	A. D. 5,537 00	A. D. 34,760 99	A. D. 6,434 70	A. D. 25,500 42	A. D. 940 45	A. D. 50,132 13	A. D. 15,397 70	A. D. 58 46	A. D. 240 10	A. D. 1,233 55	A. D. 1,712 00	A. D. 8,003 75	A. D. 4 76	A. D. 4,031 31	A. D. 2 41	A. D. 348 64	A. D. 2 33

NUMBER OF VILLAGES.	DYES.		DRUGS AND NARCOTICS.										Kharaul mooni.	Garden produce and orchards other than mango groves.	MISCELLANEOUS CROPS.				Total.	Area cropped more than once.	Not are cropped.	REMARKS.
	Indigo.	Others.	Opium.	Coffee.	Tea.	Tobacco.	Cinchona.	Indian hemp.	Others.	Food.	Kaohiana.	Non-food.										
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	
	A. D. A. D. 4,350 42	A. D. 10 29	A. D. 6 30	A. D. 9,505 46	A. D. 10 29	A. D. 10 29	A. D. 10 29	A. D. 10 29	A. D. 125 80	A. D. 5,007 62	A. D. 513 45	A. D. 254 47	A. D. 2,693 93	A. D. 301 91	A. D. 33 97	A. D. 3,10,963 24	A. D. 83,767 16	A. D. 2,22,186 06				

P. G. LYON,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX XI.

No. 168, dated Comilla, the 9th October 1895.

From—J. G. CUMMING Esq., Settlement Officer, Chakla Roshnabad Estate, Tippera,
To—The Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal,
through the Collector of Tippera.

WITH reference to your Circular No. 63S. of the 26th August last, I have the honour to submit herewith the annual report of the Chakla Roshnabad, Palpara, and Gangamandal settlements for the year ending 30th September 1895. In preparing the report I have followed the instructions laid down in Government Order No. 147T.R. of the 7th June 1894, received under cover of your Circular No. 12S. of the 18th idem. The figured statements prescribed therein are hereto appended.

2. I was in charge of the settlement from 21st October 1894 to 22nd June 1895, when I went on privilege leave, giving charge of the office to kanungo Babu Kailas Chandra Biswas, who held the charge till the 31st September 1895. He also had charge from the 1st to 20th October 1894.

3. The notifications and orders affecting the survey and settlement operations of the estates under report and issued in connection therewith, were enumerated in paragraphs 4 to 7 of my annual report for the year ending with 30th September 1894.

4. The areas of the Tippera Raj estate, Palpara estate, and the three villages of the Gangamandal estate, of which the settlement is in my charge, are 555·64, 3·19, and 1·16 square miles, respectively. The survey operations of these estates, including traverse, cadastral survey and record-writing, were completed by the survey party prior to the commencement of the year under review, as reported in my annual report for the preceding year, except that the cadastral survey and khanapuri of the village Ranigach, in Gangamandal estate, covering an area of ·27 square miles have been done during the year of report by my own staff under my direct supervision.

5. The information relating to the staff, period for which each officer has been employed, the circle held with distribution of work and the number of days spent by each officer on tour during the year of report, has been shown in the subjoined table :—

NAME OF OFFICER.	Designation.	Period for which employed and distribution of work.	Circle of each officer.	Number of days spent on tour.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
J. G. Cumming, Esq.	Settlement Officer	21st October 1894 to 22nd June 1895. General supervision, attestation and case-work. Also testing of survey and checking of khanapuri in one village.	Partly in the northern and the central divisions, partly in the Palpara and Gangamandal estate.	172	
Babu Bisveswar Bhattacharjee.	Assistant Settlement Officer.	8th November 1894 to 31st May 1895. Attestation work.	Partly in the northern and the central divisions and partly in the Gangamandal estate.	199	
Moulvi Fazlar Rahaman.	Ditto	9th November 1894 to 21st March 1895. Attestation work.	Partly in the northern division and in the Palpara estate.	91	Moulvi Fazlar Rahaman was on leave for a month from 21st February to 20th March 1895.
Babu Charu Chandra Chatterjee.	Ditto	19th March to 24th May 1895. Attestation work.	Partly in the northern and partly in the central division.	67	

6. The particulars of initial record-writing in the estates under settlement were described at length in the annual report of last year, in which it was stated that this was completed, except in the village Ranigach in Gangamandal estate. The record-writing of this village was done in the year of report, as stated in paragraph 4 above. The professional party completing the survey operations made over to this office the records of 819 villages prior to their departure from this district in November 1894.

7. Attestation did not begin till the middle of November 1894, notices having been issued for that time, as the country was up till then mostly under water. According to the Lieutenant-Governor's orders, in his inspection notes of 22nd July 1894, two camps were first started, one in the central and one in the northern division of Chakla Roshnabad under the Assistant Settlement Officers, Babu Bisveswar Bhattacharjee and Moulvi Fazlar Rahaman. At first I myself worked in the northern division camp and inspected at intervals the central division one. When Moulvi Fazlar Rahaman had to be spared for the attestation of Palpara, and I had to do case-work in Comilla, I worked at the central division camp, and Babu Bisveswar Bhattacharjee took, for a time, the place of Moulvi Fazlar Rahaman, thereby gaining useful knowledge of the northern division. By the end of December 1894, a third camp was started in the northern division, with the consent of the Manager, Mr. McMinn. This I managed myself, in addition to the other northern division camp during the absence on leave of Moulvi Fazlar Rahaman, till the arrival of Assistant Settlement Officer, Babu Charu Chandra Chatterjee. This officer with one attestation circle, and I with two, worked in the northern division till we had completed all the north-east corner of the northern division, except a jungly portion, which is unsuitable for camping except in the cold weather. Then Babu Charu Chandra Chatterjee took up a circle near Comilla, and he and Babu Bisveswar Bhattacharjee strove to complete as much as possible in the central division

before the rains. Babu Bisveswar, however, had to be spared for a few days in March and April to complete the attestation of two Gangamandal villages; I attested the third. The taluki khatians of nearly all the completed centres in the northern and central divisions, which could not be prepared till some time after the final attestation of raiyati khatians, were attested by me in the latter part of May and in the middle of June 1895.

8. Throughout the portion attested in the northern division, parchas had to be distributed at a short interval before the actual attestation. This distribution was attended with much trouble, and took up the time of a responsible officer. The object of distribution, namely, the giving information as to the present state of the record was for a long time misunderstood; and ignorance of this object was at times assumed. It was found, however, to be most necessary for the progress of the work, and the return of the corrected parchas to the parties may have had some effect in gaining the confidence of the reasonable among them.

9. The amount of attestation done in the preceding year and also during the year of report is shown in the statement No. 15 enclosed herewith. The work done in each division and by each officer during the year is shown in the following tabular statement.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of the Division.	Period actually employed on attestation.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE.			REMARKS.
			Number of villages.	Number of khatians.	Number of plots.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
J. G. Cumming, Esq., Settlement Officer.	Northern and Central Division.	Days. 121	89	9,371	37,159	
Babu Bisveswar Bhatta- charjee, Assistant Settlement Officer.	Ditto ...	183	164	8,772	54,867	
Moulvi Fazlur Rahaman, Assistant Settlement Officer.	Northern Division	81	21	4,584	14,512	
Babu Charu Chandra Chatterjee, Assistant Settlement Officer.	Northern and Central Division.	57	53	6,392	25,508	
	Total for Chakla Roshnabad.	442	327	29,119	132,046	
Moulvi Fazlur Rahaman, Assistant Settlement Officer.	Palpara ...	3	11	473	3,470	
J. G. Cumming, Esq., Settlement Officer.	Gangamandal ...	2	1	45	340	
Babu Bisveswar Bhatta- charjee, Assistant Settlement Officer.	Ditto ...	4	2	307	2,094	
	GRAND TOTAL ...	451	341	29,944	137,950	

10. The above table will show that during the year under report, 137,950 plots were attested by four officers. The aggregate number of months during which all the officers were engaged on attestation was 15, leaving out of account the number of days spent on other duties. The average outturn per month per officer thus works out to 9,196 plots only, which falls very far short of the estimated outturn of 20,000 numbers a month. The great difference in the rate of progress is chiefly due to the following reasons:—

- (a) The most intricate and difficult nature of the work, owing to the complicated system of taluks and agat taluks in the northern division of Chakla Roshnabad, as has been fully dealt with in the annual report for 1892-93.
- (b) The large number of disputes, most of which arise out of intricate rent-free claims. All of these were initially objected to by the Raj. Such specially require thorough investigation as to whether the land is *de facto* held free of rent; the care necessary for this implies expenditure of time.
- (c) The attestation of holdings made up of scattered plots of small size.
- (d) The attestation of holdings jointly appertaining to several taluks require division according to the specification of the interest of each taluk.
- (e) Bad quality of initial record-writing,* which necessitates correction and enquiry at attestation.
- (f) An untrained staff.
- (g) And the obstructiveness of the tenants, the survey and settlement being not of their own seeking.

11. Owing to the peculiar circumstances of the intermediate tenures in the Tippera Raj Estate, the taluki khatians do not admit of being attested simultaneously with the raiyati khatians. After completion of the final attestation of the rayati khatians of a village, a *tirij* is prepared, which forms the basis of the taluki khatians. According to the existing

* Due to the same causes as are enumerated under heads (a), (b), (c), (d), and (g).
W. C. M.

arrangement made by me, all the intermediate tenure-holders are summoned to appear at a fixed time and place, for the purpose of attesting the taluki khatians. This also, to a certain extent, retards the progress of work, but the procedure is required by the rules and is useful in keeping an important class of the tenants informed of what is being recorded. Moreover, this taluki khatian becomes the real record of rights as between the talukdar and his landlord.

12. The following abstract will show the progress of work done down to the end of the year under report and what remains to be done at the end of the year:—

NAME OF ESTATE.	Name of Division.	TOTAL WORK TO BE DONE.			TOTAL ATTESTATION DONE SINCE THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE OPERATIONS DOWN TO THE END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.			BALANCE TO BE DONE.			REMARKS.
		Area.	Village.	Plots.	Area.	Village.	Plots.	Area.	Village.	Plots.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Chakla Roshnabad.	Northern Division.	204'84	408	244,933	47'40	127	61,328	157'44	281	183,605	
	Central Division.	221'69	893	429,860	44'278	209	74,451	177'412	684	355,409	
	Southern Division.	129'11	209	223,058	...	...	...	129'11	209	223,058	
	Total for Chakla Roshnabad.	555'64	1,510	897,851	91'678	336	135,779	463'962	1,174	762,072	
Palpara Gangamandal	.....	3'19	11	3,470	3'19	11	3,470	...	...	...	
	.....	1'16	3	2,434	1'16	3	2,434	...	...	...	
	GRAND TOTAL...	559'99	1,524	903,765	96'028	350	141,683	463'962	1,174	762,072	

13. The notifications under rule 19 of the Tenancy Act rules were published in 291 out of 327 villages attested during the year in Chakla Roshnabad estate. Such notifications could not be published in the remaining 36 villages for the following reasons:—(a) the taluki khatians of one village could not be attested, pending disposal of a very big lakhiraj dispute between the Maharaja and a tenure-holder; (b) the raiyati khatians of 35 villages having been attested late in the season, the tenure-holders' khatians could not be made ready for attestation within the year. These were prepared during the recess, and they will be attested early next season. The rule 19 notifications have, however, been published in all the villages of Palpara and Gangamandal estate during the year.

14. The applications for the settlement of fair-rents have been filed on behalf of the Raj in respect of 81 out of 327 villages, in which rule 19 notifications were published and also with regard to 9 villages attested last year. In respect of the remaining villages, time has not expired for filing such applications. In almost all the villages fair-rent applications are being filed on behalf of the Raj. In the case of such tenures as are not held exclusively in the attested villages, there will be still an opportunity for filing such applications.

15. One hundred and fifty-three cases have been instituted during the year under report on behalf of the Raj for settlement of fair rents in 90 villages. The majority of these were filed at the close of the working season. These affect 1,471 tenants of the Roshnabad estate. Sixteen applications relating to 5 villages and involving 177 tenants were disposed of at intervals during the year, when I could be spared from attestation; and according to the result of these cases, the rents of 75 tenants were increased from Rs. 771-9-5 to Rs. 1,065-14-4 on the ground of their being under the prevailing rate and also on the ground of excess area; and with regard to 57 tenants their present rent was declared as fair and equitable, and in respect of 45 tenants the claim was withdrawn by the Raj. In case of two tenures it was directed that the enhancement would be gradual. The remaining cases will be taken up for disposal early in October 1895.

16. In 11 villages of the Palpara estate, 248 applications have been filed on behalf of the proprietors and 21 by the tenants for the determination of fair-rents. The proprietors have filed separate applications in respect of separate tenants, presumably for the purpose of adducing separate evidence, if required. These cases will be taken up for disposal early in October 1895 by an Assistant Settlement Officer. Similarly, 168 applications have been filed by the landlords of the Gangamandal villages for settlement of fair-rents of their raiyats. These cases will be decided subsequently to the disposal of the Palpara cases by an Assistant Settlement Officer.

17. My judgments have been appealed against in 10 out of 16 cases decided by me under section 104 of the Bengal Tenancy Act, as referred to in paragraph 15 above. In three cases appeal was preferred by the Raj, in six by the tenants and in one by both the parties. These appeals pend adjudication in the court of the Special Judge.

18. Draft publication has been made in five villages. The records of these were completed after disposal of fair-rent cases during the year under report. Only three objections under section 105 of the Bengal Tenancy Act have been filed in respect of three villages. These objections will be heard and considered early in October 1895. No disputes under section 106 were filed during the year, such cases being entertained after the decision of any objections under section 105. No final publication has been made during the year under review.

19. I have nothing more to add to the information already given in the preceding year's annual report about the training and utilization of patwaris and arrangement for maintenance of records, and also about the erection and maintenance of traverse-survey and boundary marks. My hope, expressed last year, that a definite agency might be brought into existence for the maintenance of records has, I regret, not yet been realized.

20. The cost of survey for the year under report amounts to Rs. 2,834, and from the beginning Rs. 1,94,886. The settlement cost for the year is Rs. 34,106-5-8, and from the beginning Rs. 69,157-15. The subjoined table will show the distribution of the total expenditure, estate by estate, from the beginning of the operations down to the close of the year under review. The totals of survey and settlement costs together come to Rs. 2,61,768-8-10 or 11·77 as. per acre, in Chakla Roshnabad estate:—

NAME OF ESTATE.	Survey cost.	Settlement cost.	Total.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Chakla Roshnabad ...	1,93,696 4 6	68,072 4 4	2,61,768 8 10	
Palpara ...	960 0 0	693 12 8	1,653 12 8	
Gangamandal ...	229 11 6	391 14 0	621 9 6	
Total ...	1,94,886 0 0	69,157 15 0	2,64,043 15 0	

21. The attitude of the talukdars, specially in the northern division, is altogether unsympathetic, and that of the raiyats, one of apathy. The survey and settlement operations are not welcomed; and if there is no actual active obstruction, there is usually passive obstruction. As a rule their attendance cannot be secured without resort to coercive measures. With some, the fear of possible prosecution for non-attendance has a certain effect. Although disputes are so numerous and are keenly fought, even though the decision is a summary one, yet it cannot be said that this arises altogether from self-interest, and a desire to have accuracy in the record; it rather arises from the character of the people themselves. Unfortunately the Raj are unable to materially assist in throwing light on the present confused state of the intermediate tenures.

22. The work done during the recess is specified below:—

- I. Correspondence work including the submission of periodical reports and returns, adjustment of accounts with the Accountant-General of Bengal, drafting attestation rules and annual report, and also submission of the budget estimate for the next financial year.
- II. Preparation of tirij and taluki khatians of 35 villages.
- III. Checking the tirij of 126 villages and correcting the mistakes detected on tirij-checking.
- IV. Noting down corrections in khasras and khatians according to the alterations made at attestation of the tenure-holders' khatians in the months of May and June.
- V. Noting down in the register of taluks the names of such villages comprised in each tenure, as have been disclosed by the result of attestation.
- VI. Issue of notifications under rule 19 of the Tenancy Act Rules for publication in 291 out of the villages attested last season.
- VII. Compilation of statistics with reference to tirij of 350 villages attested during the preceding and the year under report for status and statistical statements.
- VIII. Preparation of khewats of 350 villages.
- IX. Ditto of fly-leaves to the records of 350 villages.
- X. Ditto of raiyatwar slips of 842 unattested villages in the central and the northern division for use during attestation in the ensuing field season.
- XI. Publication of draft records in 5 villages.
- XII. Receiving fair-rent applications involving 1,462 tenants in respect of 88 villages, registering them and recording the orders in the order-sheets.
- XIII. Issue of notices under rule 24(1) of the Tenancy Act Rules accompanied with copies of the applications for fair-rent upon 876 persons concerned in the fair-rent cases, which will be taken up for disposal early in October 1895.
- XIV. Filing peons' returns of service with the records.
- XV. Fixing attestation centres both in the central and northern divisions of Chakla Roshnabad estate.
- XVI. Issue of notices under rule 11 of the Tenancy Act Rules in the villages of which the attestation will be taken up early in October 1895.
- XVII. Completion of the preparation of fly-leaves to the records of fair-rent cases, of which the records of ten cases have been arranged and sent to the Appellate Court.

23. The items of work remaining to be done in connection with the settlement of Chakla Roshnabad estate are—(1) distribution of parchas in the northern division; (2) preparation of tirij, taluki khatians and khewats of 1,174 villages; (3) preliminary and final attestation of 1,174, including recording of existing rent and status, settlement of fair-rents, and decisions of disputes and objections; (4) draft and final publication of records; (5) copying and comparing three sets of records; (6) distribution of extracts from the khatians to the tenants; (7) making over records to the Collector's record-room.

24. In connection with the settlement of Palpara and Gangamandal estates, the following work remains to be done:—(1) settlement of fair-rents; (2) draft and final publication of records; (3) copying and comparing three sets of records; (4) distribution of extracts from the khatians to the tenants; (5) making over records to the Collector's record-room.

25. In conclusion, I wish to acknowledge the cordial help I received from the Manager of His Highness's estates, Mr. McMinn. My assistants Babu Bisveswar Bhattacharjee, Moulvi Fazlar Rahaman, and Babu Charu Chandra Chatterjee all worked loyally, and my kanungo deserves special commendation.

THE work progresses slowly, but it is unavoidable. Our experience in Sarail sufficiently shows the danger of work done in the absence of the raiyats. The Settlement Officer has spared no effort to push on the work as quickly as possible, compatibly with accuracy. Inaccurate records here would be worse than useless.

R. W. CARLYLE,

Collector.

The 18th October 1895.

Settlement Officer's Monthly return of boundary Disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act—Tippera.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Number instituted from the beginning of the year (1st October), including cases pending on 30th September, to the end of the previous year.	Number instituted during the year.	Total.	Number disposed of to end of the previous year.	Number disposed of during the year.	Total.	Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.—					REMARKS.
								Instituted including appeals pending from preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
J. G. Cumming, Esq.	125	...	125	111	6	117	8	...	...	...	..	...	The discrepancy between the figures shown in column 5 of this statement and those of the preceding year's return is due to omission of 2 from the latter through oversight.

Settlement Officer's Monthly Return of Attestation Work including final publication of records—Tippera.

ESTATE.	Division.	Name of Revenue Officer.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.				NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT PUBLISHED.—		NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED.—		REMARKS.
						Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Chakia Roshnabad.	Central and Northern.	J. G. Cumming, Esq.	...	4	...	9	2'188	619	3,733	89	25'15	9,371	37,159	...	5	...	...	I. The amount of attestation work shown to have been done by Babu Kedar Nath Banerjee in the previous year's statement has been omitted from this return, on account of this attestation work having to be done again.
Ditto	Ditto	Babu Bisveswar Bhattacharjee, Assistant Settlement Officer.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	164	33'41	8,772	54,867	...	...	...	...	II. The difference between the figures shown in columns 9 and 10 of this return and those entered in the previous year's statement is due to the fact that corrected figures have been given in this statement after revision of the records during compilation of the figures for status and statistical statements.
Ditto	Ditto	Babu Charu Chandra Chatterjee, Assistant Settlement Officer.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53	20'97	6,392	25,508	...	...	...	...	
Ditto	Northern	Moulvi Fazlar Rahaman, Assistant Settlement Officer.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	9'96	4,584	14,512	...	...	...	...	
		Total for Chakia Roshnabad.	...	...	...	9	2'188	619	3,733	327	89'49	29,119	132,046	...	5	...	...	
Palpara	...	Moulvi Fazlar Rahaman, Assistant Settlement Officer.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	3'19	473	3,470	...	...	...	...	
Gangamandal	...	J. G. Cumming, Esq.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	27	45	340	...	...	...	...	
Ditto	...	Babu Bisveswar Bhattacharjee, Assistant Settlement Officer.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	89	307	2,094	...	...	...	...	
		GRAND TOTAL	...	...	...	9	2'188	619	3,733	341	93'84	29,944	137,960	...	5	...	...	

Settlement Officer's Return of cases under section 104 of the Tenancy Act for Settlement of Fair Rents—Tippera.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of Circle.	Area of circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH CASES HAVE BEEN INSTI- TUTED.			NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH CASES HAVE BEEN DIS- POSED OF.			NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED.			Former rental of tenants in- cluded in column 12.	New rental settled for tenants in column 12.	NUMBER OF DECISIONS APPEALED AGAINST TO SPECIAL JUDGE.			NUMBER OF APPEALS DECIDED.			NUMBER OF DECISIONS OF REVENUE OFFI- CERS, AS IN COLUMN 20—			REMARKS. (State here the grounds on which fair rent decisions are appealed against or impug- ned in appeal and summarise orders of courts of appeal.)	
			To end of previous year, including cases pending on 30th September	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.			To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	Reversed.	Modified.	Upheld.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
J. G. Cumming, Esq.	Northern Division Central ditto Palpara Ganganandal	202.02 223.83 3.19 1.16	12	18 72 11 3	30 72 11 3	... ... ... ...	5	5 ... ... ...	... ... ... ...	132	132	1,367 12 3	Rs. A. P. 1,662 1 2 ... ...	... ... ... ...	10	10 ... ... ...	... ... ... ...	... ... ... ...	... ... ... ...	... ... ... ...	... ... ... ...	... ... ... ...	... ... ... ...	

Settlement Officer's Return of objections under section 105 and disputes under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act—Tippera.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Nature of case.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.										NUMBER OF DECISIONS IN WHICH THE DECISION OF THE REVENUE OFFICER HAS BEEN—				REMARKS. (State grounds on- which decisions have been appeal- ed against and summarise orders of courts of ap- peal.)
		Number instituted up to the end of the previous year, including cases pending on 30th September of previous year.		Number instituted during the year.		Total.		Number disposed of to end of the previous year.		Number disposed of during the year.		Total.		Number remaining at the end of the year.		
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
	(1) Objections heard and considered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act.	..	3	3	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	I. The difference of one case be- tween the figures shown in column 8 and those shown in the previous year's return is due to omission of one case through oversight for the preceding year's statement. II. One case shown to have been disposed of during the year, is one withdrawn by the plaintiff.	
	(2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	3	..	3	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..		

Settlement Officer's Financial Statement—Tippera.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment (against each sub-head).	Expenditure to end of the previous year.	Expenditure during the year ending 30th September 1895 (against each sub-head).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Pay and special allowance of— Settlement Officer	13,900 0 0	...	11,253 4 7	I. The expenditure for the year under report as shown in this statement will not agree with the total of the cost shown in the monthly returns from October 1894 to September 1895, for the reason that on adjustment of accounts with the Accountant-General, Bengal, the figures have undergone changes. II. The budget allotment being for the financial and the expenditure for the survey year, the amount of costs does not fairly admit of comparison with the budget allotments. Only approximate figures have been given for the budget allotment of the survey year.
Assistant Settlement Officers	7,185 0 0	...	4,193 9 0	
2. Fixed establishment	7,722 0 0	...	6,482 10 7	
3. Temporary ditto	4,096 0 0	...	6,377 12 9	
4. Contract and job work	6,186 4 0	...	367 0 14	
5. Travelling allowance— Of officers	3,092 6 0	...	4,157 7 0	
Of establishment	1,810 0 0	...	632 9 0	
6. Supplies and services— Forms	500 0 0	...	444 8 7	
Tents	...	...	60 0 0	
Petty construction	...	...	586 14 6	
repairs	...	...	52 13 0	
7. Contingencies— Petty contingencies	1,050 0 0	...	437 12 9	
Hot-weather charges	...	...	11 13 8	
Conveyance charges	...	...	448 15 3	
Service telegrams	...	...	18 3 0	
postage charges	...	...	89 9 6	
8. Miscellaneous	3,680 0 0	...	686 5 0	
9. Unforeseen	1,900 0 0	...	804 15 10	
	60,821 12 0	35,051 9 4	34,106 5 8	

Statement showing the status and rent of tenants as recorded in the khatians from commencement of settlement to close of year under report.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LANDS.					REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class.	Average area of cultivated lands per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per cultivated acre.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Proprietor's (sir nū jote)	294	26'60	'00	...	...	There is no separate assessment for cultivated lands, and so the rent entered in column 5 covers both the cultivated and uncultivated lands comprising the holdings referred to in column 2, and the average rent in column 6 covers the homestead and other uncultivated lands.
2. Held by proprietors, but not true sir	...	...	...	...	...	
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders	2,697	2,070'98	'76	...	...	
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents	75	420'40	5'60	1,060 3 6	2 7 11	
5. Settled raiyats	25,238	35,560'83	1'40	1,24,872 10 10	3 8 2	
6. Occupancy raiyats	317	257'97	'81	1,220 5 3	4 12 2	
7. Non-occupancy raiyats	460	314'42	'68	757 14 6	2 6 6	
8. Rent-free holders	863	495'42	'57	...	...	
Total	29,944	39,146'71	9'91	1,37,910 2 1	...	
9. Under-raiyats	925	467'68	'80	2,250 14 7	4 13 3	

J. G. CUMMING,

Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX XII.

No. 47, dated Alipore, the 10th October 1895.

From—BABU JOTENDRA NATH GUPTA, Settlement Officer, Taraf Chaurasi,
To—The Director of the Department of Land Records.

I HAVE the honour to submit the annual report on the settlement operation of Taraf Chaurasi, Nos. 2007, 2007—1, district 24-Parganas, during the year ending 30th September 1895.

2. The estate, which is borne on the Collector's revenue-roll as No. 2007, comprises 52 villages, of which one could not be traced. It also bears No. 2007—1, as one of the former proprietors opened a separate account under section 10 of Act XI of 1859. The whole 16-anna share is now jointly held by Maharaja Durga Charan Law and others. The villages have an aggregate area of 20,464 acres or 33 square miles.

3. The settlement was undertaken on the application of the proprietors, and is being made under Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act. The Commissioner sanctioned the work under section 103 in his No. 133R.L., dated the 17th June 1892.

4. Before the settlement was undertaken in its entirety, one village was taken up at the request of the proprietors as a test case. The survey of the village was commenced on the 18th April 1893, and the settlement was completed by the 23rd of November of the following year.

Ten applications for settlement of fair rent under section 104 were filed by the proprietors. These were contested, and resulted in the enhancement of rent in five cases. Appeals were preferred to the Judge against the decisions by the raiyats in some of the cases and by the proprietors in all the cases. The result was as follows:—

In one case in which rent was enhanced, the decision was reversed. In two cases in which the rents were held to be enhanceable, but no enhancement was made as the lands of the two holdings to which these two cases related could not be distinguished from each other, the Judge in appeal enhanced the rent, amalgamating the two holdings together. In the rest of the cases the decisions were upheld. After this, the proprietors, I am informed, again applied for review of all the cases, and the Judge upheld my decisions in the cases in which I had ordered enhancement, and directed enhancement in cases in which no enhancement had been made by me.

5. While this test case was in progress, on the application of the proprietors the survey of the rest of the villages was ordered to be made, and before October 1894, 32 square miles of the estate were brought under traverse survey. The remaining one square mile was not required to be traversed, as it was composed of scattered "chit" lands situated within the neighbouring estates.

6. In the first week of December following the cadastral survey was commenced under the orders of the Survey of India Department by a staff of 17 amins, one Inspector, and one Head Inspector, and by the end of January 13 villages with an area of 13.66 square miles were reported to have been cadastrally surveyed.

7. The estate consists of two blocks: the smaller one is situated to the west of the larger block.

8. On the 12th of February 1895, I arrived at one of the villages in the western block of the estate, and on the 16th idem khanapuri commenced. There was no division of circles for the purpose of supervising khanapuri. The work of supervision of all the villages, excepting one which could not be traced, and the one which had been already settled, was done by me.

9. For the first few weeks there was very little record-writing going on, first, owing to the cadastral survey maps not having been passed by the Survey Department, and, secondly, because there were not many amins available for khanapuri work on account of the cadastral survey, which was then going on and in which the majority of the amins were employed. But subsequently as the cadastral survey approached completion, men were available for the khanapuri work, and it went on rapidly. Moreover, latterly, extra amins were employed, and the record-writing for the whole area of 33 square miles was completed by the 31st of July.

10. I was in camp from the 12th February to 31st July 1895.

11. Fifteen boundary disputes were instituted during the year, and they were all disposed of. In no case was any appeal preferred.

12. There was an unusually large number of disputes regarding possession and status, the former between tenants and the latter between landlords and tenants, and with the exception of about half a dozen I disposed of the disputes on the field while supervising khanapuri.

13. The cost incurred in survey was Rs. 6,868-12-1 and in settlement Rs. 1,936-6-9.

14. It was estimated that there would be about 42,000 fields, and in accordance with that estimate the employment of six attestation muharrirs was recommended. But it now

NOTE.—By "status" the Settlement Officer explains that he means whether the tenant is a tenure-holder or a raiyat.

appears from the survey returns that the number of fields amounts to 62,129, the average size of a field being about one-third of an acre. It will, therefore, be necessary to employ three more muharrirs to get through the work of attestation within the estimated time, viz., from 1st November to 31st January 1896.

15. From the experience which I have had in the case of the village which was taken up as a test case, I expect that, unless an amicable settlement is arrived at between the landlords and the tenants, there will be a large number of cases under section 104, which will greatly enhance the cost of settlement.

16. In the beginning the raiyats evinced very little interest in the khanapuri work, and their attendance in the field was not what could be desired; but subsequently when they understood the importance of the matter, they showed greater interest and attended more regularly. That a fairly large number attended at the khanapuri will appear from the fact that only in a few cases summonses had to be issued under the Civil Procedure Code to enforce attendance, and in a single case it was necessary to impose a small fine for non-attendance.

17. One peculiarity about the tenancies in the estate is that a tenancy of a particular village has lands scattered over many villages. Where this sort of things existed, the zamindars claimed all lands situated beyond the village to which the tenancy appertains as their khas lands on the ground that these lands were surreptitiously taken possession of by the raiyats and included in their tenancies. This was the nature of a large number of disputes between tenants and landlords. I ordered that these lands should be considered part of the tenancies under which the tenants claimed to hold them, the lands being in their undisputed possession. My idea is that the villages in which these lands are situated belonged to one and the same zamindar, and they having been gradually taken up have been added to the tenancies then standing in the names of the raiyats to obviate the necessity of opening separate accounts for different villages with the same person.

18. Attestation work will be taken in hand by the 1st November next, the Survey Department having signified their intention of making over the records of some of the villages to me by the middle of this month to commence with, the remaining records being made over by the end of the month.

Settlement Officer's Return of Boundary Disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Number instituted up to the end of the previous year.	Number instituted during the year.	Total.	Number disposed of to end of the previous year.	Number disposed of during the year.	Total.	Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
								Instituted.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Babu Jotindro Nath Gupta ...	...	15	15	...	15	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	

Settlement Officer's Return of Khanapuri work.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER EMPLOYED.	Name of Circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH KHANAPURI WORK WAS COMPLETED.—				Number of villages of which Khanapuri has been completed to the end of the year.	Number of villages inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of amins inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of plots of which the khasra entries were tested.	REMARKS
				Up to end of the previous year.		During the year.						
				Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Babu Jotindra Nath Gupta	Main circuit No. I Sub-circuit No. II	11 46*	6 27	...	...	11 39	6 27	11 39	11 39	10 44	685 500	* One village could not be traced.

Settlement Officer's Financial Statement.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment (against each sub-head).	Expenditure to end of the previous year (against each sub-head).	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs. A. P.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Pay and special allowance of— Settlement Officer			1,325 10 8	(a) Expenses in column 4 against cross-headings 1, 3, and 5 were met from an advance of Rs. 2,000 deposited by the proprietors. The estimate has not yet been sanctioned.
2. Temporary establishment ... ..	.....	.....	164 9 1	
3. Contract and job work			6 0 0	(b) Expenditure in column 4 against cross-headings 4, 6, and 7 was met from Rs. 98-11-3. Shown in column 2 against cross-heading 7.
4. Travelling allowance— Of officers ... ..	.....	.....	388 10 6	
Of establishment ... ..	.....	.....	13 1 6	
5. Supplies and services— Forms ... ..	.....	.....	2 11 9	
6. Contingencies— Hot-weather charges	48 11 3	.....	.....	
Office rent ... ..	.....	.....	.....	
Service telegrams ... ..	.....	.....	.....	
postage charges ... ..	.....	.....	2 0 0	
&c. &c. ... ..	.....	.....	.....	
Miscellaneous expenses ... ..	.....	.....	17 11 9	
Total	48 11 3		1,826 6 9	

APPENDIX XIII.

No. 211, dated Burdwan, the 1st October 1895.

From—BABU SUKUMAR HALDAR, Deputy Collector in charge, Settlement Office,
To—The Commissioner of the Burdwan Division.

AGREEABLY to the Director of Land Records' Circular No. 63S., dated 26th August 1895, I have the honour to submit the annual report of the Burdwan Raj khas mahals settlement for the survey year ending 30th September 1895.

2. The areas under settlement and covered by Government notifications as modified from time to time are at present as follow :—

DISTRICT.		Number of villages.	Area in square miles and acres.	
Burdwan	...	77	76	527
Hooghly	...	27	13	305
Bankura	...	72	39	10
		176	129	202

3. Out of the 176 villages, proposals have been submitted for the exclusion of one village in Burdwan, two villages in Hooghly, and twelve in Bankura, on various grounds. Final orders have not yet been received regarding them. Orders are also awaited regarding a large number of villages which have been surveyed in Bankura in excess of the 72 shown above.

4. Thirty-five villages measuring 16,749 acres have been attested during the year. There are 4,939 tenants' holdings, besides 435 under-raiyats' holdings and 24,514 plots in these villages. This work engaged my attention for about 107 days.

5. The following is a comparative statement of work in connection with draft and final publication of records from the commencement of operations in the three districts :—

PERIOD.	DRAFT PUBLICATION.		FINAL PUBLICATION.		REMARKS.
	Number of villages.	Area in square miles and acres.	Number of villages.	Area in square miles and acres.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
First year (nine months), 1891-92.	23	14 286	13	3 297	
Second year, 1892-93 ...	29	22 114	26	18 574	
Third year, 1893-94 ...	64	47 204	38	45 240	
Present year, 1894-95 ...	36	30 376	67	44 634	
Total ...	152	114 340	144	112 465	

6. I reverted to general duty on account of the recess on the 16th May 1895, and was with effect from that date relieved of the settlement work by notification No. 3226A., dated 20th May 1895, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 22nd May 1895. Under separate arrangements I am still in charge of the settlement work in addition to my duties in the regular line.

7. During the period from 1st October 1894 to 15th May 1895 I have spent 127 days on tour.

8. There were no applications under section 104 of the Bengal Tenancy Act during the year, but I settled the rents of 38 tenants in Hooghly on my own motion, as it appeared (on the admission of the tenants themselves) that they held lands in excess of those for which they were paying rents. The existing rents of these tenants, amounting to Rs. 467-9, were in this manner increased to Rs. 495-8, resulting in an increase of Rs. 27-15, or 6 per cent. In previous seasons rents were settled for 4,114 tenants whose existing rents, amounting to Rs. 37,000, were raised to Rs. 38,998, resulting in an increase of Rs. 1,998, or 5½ per cent.

9. Two boundary disputes were instituted and summarily disposed of during the year.

10. The number of objections under section 105 (1) filed during the year after draft publication of records was 565, which, added to the 45 cases pending at the close of the

previous year, make a total of 610, of which 551 have been disposed of during the year. An appeal from my order passed on an objection under section 105, which had been long pending before the Special Judge, has been disposed of by the case being remanded for trial as a dispute under section 106, Bengal Tenancy Act. A reference has been made by me in my No. 148, dated 24th July 1895, to your address, regarding this decision.

11. Eleven disputes under section 106 were filed during this year. These, added to the five cases pending at the close of the preceding year, make a total of 16, of which 13 cases have been disposed of during the year.

12. The two villages shown as remaining to be khanapuried last year were completed during the year under report.

13. The following is a statement of khasra correction and terij work:—

1	2		3		4		5
PERIOD.	DRAFT TERIJ PREPARATION.		FINAL TERIJ PREPARATION.		KHASRA CORRECTION.		REMARKS.
	Number of villages.	Number of plots.	Number of villages.	Number of plots.	Number of villages.	Number of plots.	
			BURDWÂN DISTRICT.				
From commencement down to end of the preceding year.	64	50,473	62	44,424	36	25,847	The year's work may be summarised as follows for all the three districts taken together:—Draft terij, 36 villages, 33,337 plots; final terij 67 villages, 48,140 plots; khasra correction 98 villages, 58,037 plots.
During the year	4	9,230	6	15,259	30	21,848	
	68	59,703	68	59,683	66	47,695	
			HOOGHLY.				
From commencement down to end of the preceding year.	15	14,636	13	10,354	7	3,088	
During the year	9	7,538	3	5,823	9	13,089	
	24	22,174	16	16,177	16	16,177	
			BANKURA.				
From commencement down to end of the preceding year.	37	10,995	2	498	...	...	
During the year	23	15,569	58	27,058	59	23,100	
	60	27,564	60	27,556	59	23,100	

About 50 to 75 per cent. of the khasra entries made by the Survey Department have to be corrected in the course of settlement proceedings. The work requires great care and labour.

14. Three hundred and ninety-seven plots, measuring 342 acres in 24 villages, lying in the three districts, were measured at attestation time or at subsequent stages at the request of the landlord, who did not point them out to the Survey officer at the time of the survey. One village, Rama, in Burdwan was so badly surveyed that attestation had to be stopped. The errors have been rectified during the recess by an amin of this office working jointly with an amin of the Survey Department.

15. The complete records of 126 villages with copies of khasras and connected papers have been made over to the landlord; and the tenants (with some exceptions) of these villages have also taken their copies of the khatians.

16. The settlement cost from commencement down to the end of September 1895 amounts to Rs. 41,065-9-10 as against an estimate of Rs. 85,820-8.* The following may be set off against the settlement expenditure:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
(1) Receipts on account of court-fees, process-fees and other fees levied in stamps	2,048	0	0
(2) Refunds	62	8	0
(3) Expenditure incurred on account of measurement of lands left out by the Survey Department ...	1,170	0	0
Total ...	3,280	8	0

The net settlement cost would thus amount to Rs. 37,785-1-10. The settlement cost rate on the draft-published area is about 8 annas per acre. Information regarding the survey cost is not available in this office.

17. Tabular statements regarding khanapuri work, boundary disputes, and case-work under section 104, Bengal Tenancy Act, are not furnished, as no work of these descriptions worth mentioning has been done during the year.

The following tabular statements are annexed to this report:—

I.—A statement of settlement progress in the form as in Appendix I to the Director's annual report on settlements for the year ending 30th September 1894 (not printed).

- II.—Annual return of attestation work, including final publication of records.
 III.—Annual return of objections under section 105 and disputes under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.
 IV.—Annual financial statement.
 V.—Statement showing the status and rent of tenants in the khatians from commencement of settlement to close of year under report.
 VI.—Details of “other kinds” mentioned in above statement.
 VII.—Statements of under-raiyats’ holdings.

II.—Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Attestation Work, including final publication of Records, for the year ending 30th September 1895.

BURDWAN RAJ KHAS MAHAL.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of Circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles and acres.	Number of villages for which records have been received from the Survey Department.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.				NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT- PUBLISHED—		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED—		REMARKS. (Here note adequacy of work done or cause of failure to work up to programme.)
					Number of villages.	Number of square miles and acres.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of villages.	Number of square miles and acres.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Babu Sukumar Halder, Deputy Collector.	Burdwan ...	77	76'327	77	65	68'281	12,301	59,296	3	0'255	157	407	64	4	62	6	
	Hooghly ...	27	13'305	27	15	8'607	2,261	14,638	9	3'143	1,174	7,533	15	9	13	3	
	Bankura ...	72	39'10	423	37	10'623	1,434	10,995	23	22'351	3,608	16,569	37	23	3	58	
		176	129'202	527	117	88'231	15,996	84,927	35	26'109	4,939	24,514	116	36	77	67	

NOTE.—The figures in this statement have been revised and corrected. In some cases figures of previous years have been corrected.
 COLUMN 17.—The final publication of one village in Burdwan is incomplete, as a dispute case under section 106 is pending. The unpublished area affected by the dispute is 20 acres.
 The final publication of one village in Bankura is incomplete, as two dispute cases under section 106 are pending. The unpublished area affected by the disputes is 8 acres.

III.—Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Objections under section 105 and Disputes under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act for the year ending 30th September 1895.

BURDWAN RAJ KHAS MAHAL.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Nature of case.	Number instituted up to the end of the previous year, including cases pending on 30th September of previous year.	Number instituted during the year.	Total.	Number disposed of to end of the previous year.	Number disposed of during the year.	Total.	Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT—					REMARKS. (State ground on which decisions have been appealed against and summarise orders of courts of appeal.)
									Instituted, including appeals pending on 30th September of preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
											Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Babu Sukumar Haldar, Deputy Collector.	(1) Objections heard and considered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act.	1,714	565	2,279	1,669	551	2,220	80	1	1*	...	...	...	* This case has been remanded for trial.
	(2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	40	11	51	35	13	48	3	...	...	...	...	...	

IV.—Settlement Officer's Annual Financial statement for the year ending 30th September 1895.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head).	MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head).
1	2	1	2
1. Pay and special allowance of—	Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.
Settlement Officer ...	3,822 14 3	6. Brought forward ...	.....
Assistant Settlement Officers ...	.....	Supplies and services—	
2. Fixed establishment ...	5,264 5 2	Forms ...	.....
3. Temporary establishment ...	.....	Stationery ...	66 11 6
4. Contract and job work ...	722 4 0	Tents ...	.....
5. Travelling allowance—		Petty construction ...	5 3 6
Of officers ...	745 13 6	„ repairs ...	1 2 6
Of establishment ...	307 12 0	7. Contingencies—	
	.....	Hot-weather charges ...	.....
		Office rent ...	44 0 0
		Service telegrams ...	2 12 0
		„ postage charges ...	59 3 9
		Miscellaneous ...	535 7 8
Carried over ...	.....		11,577 9 10

V.—Statement to be used in monthly and annual reports showing the status and rent of tenants as recorded in the khatians from commencement of the year under report.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LANDS.					REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class.	Average area of cultivated lands per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per cultivated acre.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
BURDWAN.						
<i>For 61 villages.</i>						
1. Proprietor's <i>sir</i> (<i>nij jote</i>) ...	1	Acres. 10	10'00	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
2. Held by proprietors, but not true <i>sir</i> ...	60	2,364	39'40	.....	.....	
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders.	1	56	56'00	160 2 2	2 13 9	
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents.	21	145	6'90	531 0 8	3 10 7	
5. Settled raiyats ...	4,441	11,437	2'57	45,111 9 9	3 15 1	
6. Occupancy raiyats ...	41	105	2'54	414 15 3	3 15 2	
7. Non-occupancy raiyats ...	719	1,344	1'92	6,474 1 0	4 10 10	
8. Rent-free holders ...	565	807	1'42	.....	.....	
9. Other kinds ...	4,693	7,622	1'62	.....	.....	
Total ...	10,542	23,930	...	52,691 12 10	...	
HOOGHLY.						
<i>For 24 villages.</i>						
1. Proprietor's <i>sir</i> (<i>nij jote</i>) ...	...	...	...	...	...	
2. Held by proprietors, but not true <i>sir</i> ...	33	550	16'66	.....	.....	
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders.	...	...	...	.....	.....	
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents.	...	...	...	.....	.....	
5. Settled raiyats ...	1,296	2,017	1'55	16,733 4 0	3 4 8	
6. Occupancy raiyats ...	1	3	3'00	21 0 0	7 0 0	
7. Non-occupancy raiyats ...	100	165	1'61	1,369 13 3	3 4 9	
8. Rent-free holders ...	287	291	1'97	.....	.....	
9. Other kinds ...	1,258	1,276	1'01	.....	.....	
Total ...	2,985	4,302	...	18,124 1 3	...	
BANKURA.						
<i>For 60 villages.</i>						
1. Proprietor's <i>sir</i> (<i>nij jote</i>) ...	...	...	...	...	...	
2. Held by proprietors, but not true <i>sir</i> ...	48	596	12'41	.....	.....	
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders.	2	605	302'5	126 9 0	0 3 4	
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents.	...	...	...	.....	.....	
5. Settled raiyats ...	1,766	3,769	2'13	(a) 12,279 2 10	3 4 1	(a) Add rent in kind— Paddy 16 máp, 5 soli, 18 pies 6 chitaks.
6. Occupancy raiyats ...	26	61	2'34	(b) 276 5 9	4 8 5	(b) Add rent in kind— Paddy 2 máp, 6 soli, 4 chitaks.
7. Non-occupancy raiyats ...	154	299	1'94	(c) 1,697 1 4	5 10 9	(c) Add rent in kind— Paddy 6 soli, 3 pies, 12 chitaks.
8. Rent-free holders ...	77	90	1'16	.....	.....	
9. Other kinds ...	1,679	2,715	1'61	.....	.....	
Total ...	3,762	8,135	...	14,979 2 11	...	

NOTE.—For details of "Other kinds" see Statement No. VI. This statement is revised and corrected.

VI.—Details of Lands of "Other kinds" mentioned in Statement V.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LAND.					REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate cultivated area in acres held by each class.	Average area in acres of cultivated lands per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per cultivated acre.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
BURDWAN—(67 villages.)						
(1) Homesteads	5	2	40	Nil	Nil	
(2) Ghaskar (pasturage)	1	5	500			
(3) Zamindari service lands	144	61	42			
(4) Claimed as rent-free	759	722	95			
(5) No existing rent	2,513	3,702	147			
(6) Non-rent paying	312	320	102			
(7) Claimed as piran rent-free	3	10	33			
(8) Chaukidari service lands	221	789	357			
(9) " " (claimed as such)	28	65	232			
(10) Government lands	11	5	45			
(11) Lands appertaining to other estates	680	1,844	271			
(12) " (claimed as such)	16	97	606			
Total ...	4,693	7,623				
HOOGHLY—(24 villages.)						
(1) Homesteads	2	33	16	Nil	Nil	
(2) Zamindari service lands	24	35	145			
(3) Claimed as rent-free	...	...	...			
(4) No existing rent	1,060	553	52			
(5) Chaukidari service lands	47	156	332			
(6) " (claimed as such)	3	642	214			
(7) Lands appertaining to other estates	121	52125	430			
(8) " (claimed as such)	1	4	400			
Total ...	1,258	1,27600				
BANKURA—(60 villages.)						
(1) Jalkar (piscary)	5	4	80	Nil	Nil	
(2) Zamindari service lands	52	76	146			
(3) No existing rent	1,543	1,655	107			
(4) Chaukidari service lands	29	41	141			
(5) Simandari service lands	12	35	291			
(6) Ghatwali service lands	2	3	150			
(7) Lands appertaining to other estates	36	901	2502			
Total ...	1,679	2,715				

VII.—Statement of under-raiyats' holdings.

DISTRICT.	Number of under-raiyats.	AREA IN ACRES.			Rent.	AVERAGE RENT PER ACRE ON—		REMARKS.
		Cultivated.	Not cultivated.	Total.		Total area.	Cultivated area.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Burdwan	317	172	19	191	Rs. A. P. 892 15 0	Rs. A. P. 4 10 9	Rs. A. P. 5 3 0	
Hooghly	54	9	5	14	137 5 6	9 12 11	15 4 2	
Bankura	64	79	11	90	278 15 5	3 1 7	3 8 5	
Total ...	435	260	35	235	1,309 3 11	.....	.....	

APPENDIX XIV.

No. 155, dated Muzaffarpur, the 24th October 1895.

From—P. C. LYON, Esq., Settlement Officer, Gaya,

To—The Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith my annual report on the settlement operations under my charge in Gaya for the year between 1st October 1894 and 30th September 1895.

1. *Notifications.*—The work commenced by the Survey Department in the Tikari Ward's estate during 1893-94 was covered by a notification No. 1782L.R., dated 10th April 1893, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of 12th April 1893. This notification was modified by a subsequent one, No. 1082L.R., dated 25th February 1895, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of 27th February 1895, by which the survey and settlement operations were to be restricted to villages in which the Tikari Raj has 16-annas interest, or an interest to the extent of 8 annas. In consequence of this modification, the attestation and completion of the records of 35 villages which had been surveyed and khanapuri by the Survey Department were indefinitely postponed. The Belkhara mahal, which is partly the property of Government and partly belongs to the Tikari ward, has been brought under settlement and survey by notification No. 2029L.R., dated 15th April 1895, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of 17th April 1895. The operations in this mahal will be carried through and completed during the current year. The survey and settlement operations which have been started in the Government khas mahals are covered by notification No. 650T.R., dated 6th October 1894, recently amended by notification No. 4029 L.R., dated 23rd August 1895, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of 28th August 1895. The whole of the area with which it is proposed to deal is shown in Statement B appended to this report.

2. *Programme.*—The programme set out for the settlement staff during the past year was—

- (a) The attestation of 443 villages in which record-writing was completed by the survey staff during 1893-94, and in which the Tikari Ward's estate held either full proprietary rights or a share representing one-half or more of those rights.
- (b) The supervision of khanapuri in 109 villages of Government estates, covering an area of 88 square miles, and 109 villages belonging to the Tikari ward, covering an area of 66 square miles. Among the Tikari villages eight are situated in the district of Patna, and both the Government and the Tikari villages in Gaya are scattered all over the district.
- (c) The disposal of objections and boundary and other disputes and the completion of the records of 441 villages attested during the year.
- (d) The compilation of statistics of areas and tenancies of the villages attested.
- (e) The final publication of the records of the villages attested.

3. *Staff of officers and distribution of work.*—In order to carry out this programme, a staff of five officers was placed at my disposal.—In Statement A attached to this report are shown the periods for which these officers were employed on settlement work, the work they were engaged on, and the number of days they were on tour. Babu Annada Charan Gupta was in local charge of the operations practically throughout the year.

I was myself on tour in the district on five occasions during the year.

Babu Gopi Krishna Lall fell ill shortly after he joined, and had to go on medical leave.

4. *Record-writing.*—The programme of the Survey Department was the survey and preparation of the records of 109 villages of the Tikari Raj and 109 villages belonging to Government estates. This work was entrusted to one survey party under Mr. G. T. Hall, Assistant Superintendent of Survey, whose office was located at Tikari. Owing to the scattered nature of the work, it was impossible to remain in close touch with it, and it not unfrequently happened that the record-writing of a village was finished before an officer could reach it for inspection purposes. But in places where there was any likelihood of trouble or confusion in khanapuri, an officer was always deputed to the spot. No special officer was appointed for the supervision of khanapuri, and it was mainly done by Babus Annada Charan Gupta, Babu Jogendra Chandra Bhanja, and Maulavi Mohiuddin Ahmed.

5. *Boundary disputes.*—The work in connection with these disputes was considerable. In addition to 98 which were pending at the close of 1893-94, 240 new cases were instituted during the year, but of this large total, only 7 were left undecided at the close of 1894-95, and much credit is due to Babu Annada Charan Gupta, on whom the bulk of this work fell, for the energy he displayed in dealing with it. In many cases the boundaries of the villages under survey were hotly contested, and careful local enquiries had to be made and much conflicting evidence fully sifted before any decision could be arrived at.

6. *Attestation.*—For the attestation of the 441 villages, covering an area of 317·73 square miles, that it was finally determined to attest during the past year (two villages out of the total of 443 had to be reserved for attestation during the current year), four circles were mapped out and placed in charge of four Assistant Settlement Officers. Two of these circles, No. I and No. II, were in the Sadar subdivision; Circle No. III was situated in the northern subdivision, Jahanabad; and the fourth was in the western subdivision, Aurangabad. The last-named circle was very scattered, and the majority of the villages in it were situated at a considerable distance from head-quarters, so I placed it in charge of Mr. Rowland Nagendra Lal Chandra, who had already had two years' experience in settlement work under me in Muzaffarpur. Statement E attached to this report shows the work actually done in each camp under this head. The whole of the programme was practically completed by the end of

March, although miscellaneous arrears of work of various kinds kept two of the Assistant Settlement Officers in the district for some time into April. I visited three of the camps in November to start the work, and I inspected them all again in February.

7. The work of attestation went very smoothly, and was on the whole, I think, thoroughly carried out. But there were some difficulties experienced, which were peculiar to the operations in this district. The raiyats being poorer and less intelligent than the majority of those we have met in the districts of North Bihar, it was found difficult to explain to them the nature, and meaning of our operations, and to induce them to take any interest or part in our proceedings. The marked exceptions to this rule, which were noticeable in certain prosperous and more advanced villages, served to prove it. It was the natural consequence of this dulness and apathy that our preliminary explanation of the papers or *bujharat* should prove tedious and difficult. But we received much assistance from the Raj circle officers, who were deputed on special duty to assist us, and by means of carefully adopting the local nomenclature for the different blocks of fields in each village, we were able to satisfy ourselves in the end that our work was understood.

8. A further difficulty that arose in the course of our work was in dividing off the land held by the raiyats on cash rents into various classes in accordance with the terms on which they were held. The prevailing rule of the district is to take a produce rent from the tenant, and not a fixed rent in cash. But various exceptions are made to this rule, each distinct in its nature, which may be roughly explained as follows:—In almost all the villages of the Tikari Ward's estate there is a certain area held by the raiyats on fixed rents, or fixed rates of rent, which have been paid from time immemorial, and which are acknowledged by the Manager of the estate to be practically unchangeable. These rents are denoted "shikam" rents, and the lands covered by them are well known and defined.

9. Another exception is frequently made where land is either too high for irrigation, or out of reach of existing irrigation works, or for other reasons is unpopular. In this case the proprietor will often settle the lands with a raiyat temporarily at a cash rent, known as "chakat," in order to induce him to take them up, reserving to himself the power to take a produce rent from them again at the end of the fixed term. As a rule the landlord does not again return to a produce rent after once making this arrangement, but he still claims the right to do so in the case of all such lands.

10. The third class of such rents is known as "paran," where a cash rent is taken for certain plots of land in consideration of the cultivation of some particular crop in them, such as tobacco, poppy, sugarcane, and the like. But we have recorded only a few of such cases, and they are even less common than the few ordinary cash rents, assessed in the usual way, which do not bear any peculiar conditions attached to them.

11. In Statement K attached to this report I have given the areas held under each class of cash rents, excluding the homestead lands, which, although held without rent, are included in the lands shown as assessed to rent in Statement J. From Statement K it will be seen that more than half of the area held on cash rents is held on the "chakat" system and 43 per cent. on the "shikam" system, only 6 per cent. being held on ordinary cash rents.

12. The distinction of the above classes in our papers was a source of labour and delay, as they had not been fully explained and recorded at the time of *khanapuri*, owing to the want of instructions on the subject; and although we were permitted by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to show "shikam" and other lands on one *khatian*, a good deal of re-adjustment of our papers had to be made.

13. *Settlement of fair rents.*—The work under this head was not important. Lands in Gaya are mostly held on produce rents, as is clearly shown in the statistics given in Statement J attached to this report, and ordinary cash rents are found in very few villages. Three cases under section 104 of the Tenancy Act were instituted and disposed of by the Assistant Settlement Officer in the course of the year. The total number of tenants involved in the cases was 111, and the result of the decisions has been to enhance their rents from Rs. 2,883-2-6 to Rs. 3,749-5-6. The heavy increase thus shown, 33 per cent., is due to the fact that only very gross instances of increase in area and under-assessment to rent were brought before us. The rents as settled by the Assistant Settlement Officer are fair and equitable, and in no way exceed the average rents paid by other raiyats in the neighbourhood of those affected.

14. *Draft publication.*—The publication of the draft records was carried out *pari passu* with attestation work, the records of villages in which applications under section 104 had been filed being reserved from publication until the cases had been disposed of. In one case the draft records were published for the second time, a case under section 104 having been entertained after the first publication. The records of one village are still pending for draft publication, as a case under section 104 has been lately decided with reference to them. No complaints were received against the *kanungoes* employed on this duty in the course of the year.

15. *Objections under section 105.*—Exclusive of objections filed and decided during attestation, 359 formal objections were presented under section 105 of the Bengal Tenancy Act. These were dealt with by Babu Annada Charan Gupta chiefly during the recess. The principle of dealing with them in or near the villages concerned was carefully observed, and the Assistant Settlement Officer had to make many local enquiries in connection with them. The investigations under this section were strictly confined to ascertaining the actually existing facts, and objectors who were found to be out of possession of the rights claimed by them were directed to proceed further under section 106. The Assistant Settlement Officer did his best to satisfy himself in each case that the entry originally made, or as altered by him, was the correct one.

16. Only 20 complaints have been presented under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act; 16 of these have been disposed of by Babu Annada Charan Gupta in the course of the

year, and the remaining 4 are now under trial. No appeals have been preferred against the Assistant Settlement Officer's decisions, and the work under this section has been so insignificant as scarcely to need mention.

17. The final publication of the records of the 441 villages attested in the past year has been temporarily suspended until final orders shall be passed in the matter of the record of abwabs. Nearly all the records are now ready for final publication.

18. *Cost with estimates.*—It is very difficult to give correct financial returns for the survey year, owing to the fact that all our accounts are kept for the financial year. In the financial Statement H appended, I have noted the actual expenditure in the past 12 months, but I am unable to compare this profitably with the budget estimates, those estimates having been prepared for a different period. And owing to changes in the forms prescribed for financial reports since the commencement of the past survey year, I am not able to give even the actual expenditure in so complete a form as I should have wished.

In the matter of cost the following figures may be of interest as showing approximately the actual cost of the work in the area of 318 square miles of which the records are practically complete.

It may be taken that the Survey Department expenditure on this area ceased at the close of the survey year of 1893-94, whereas the Settlement Department has been engaged on them up to the close of 1894-95. Any expenditure incurred during the past year in connection with the area recently under survey may be balanced against the future expenditure to be incurred on final publication. From the commencement of our operations to the close of 1893-94, the survey expenditure amounted to about Rs. 75,000, and from the commencement to the close of 1894-95, the Settlement Department expenditure has amounted to about Rs. 38,500. To this latter sum we must add, however, about Rs. 6,500 as the cost of forms and the amount debitable to the operations for the supervision exercised over the operations by the Settlement Officer. This will make a total of Rs. 45,000 for settlement, or a grand total of Rs. 1,20,000 in all. The completed records for 318 square miles, therefore, have cost Rs. 377 per square mile, or 9 annas 4 pies per acre. Out of these sums Rs. 235 per square mile, or 5 annas 10 pies per acre, have been spent by the Survey Department, and Rs. 142 per square mile, or 3 annas 6 pies per acre, have been spent by the Settlement Department. The reasons for the comparatively heavy expenditure on this area by the Survey Department are the increased cost of traversing detached villages scattered over an area of nearly 5,000 square miles, and also the large expenditure which has been incurred in surveying villages held from the Raj on permanent leases for which records were not prepared, and in surveying and preparing records for villages which were afterwards set aside as not being wholly, or in large proportion, the property of the ward. Were it possible for me to give figures excluding all such expenditure, I think we should find that the Survey Department had actually spent some 4 annas per acre on these 318 square miles, and that the total cost of our operations within this area would give us a rate of 7 annas 6 pies per acre. I much doubt whether it is possible to reduce this rate any further, even in such areas as this, in which litigation is rare, and it is clear that where our proceedings are prolonged and interrupted by actual disputes, this rate must inevitably increase.

19. *Statistics of area and holdings.*—The 441 villages for which records have been completed cover 318 square miles and contain 28,000 tenancies and 388,837 plots. Each village thus measures on an average '72 of a square mile, and contains 881 plots and 63 tenancies; each tenancy contains 14 plots and about 7 acres; each square mile contains 1,222 plots; and each plot measures about '52 of an acre. Similar figures have been given by me, less accurately, for each of the three Bihar districts in which settlement operations are proceeding north of the Ganges, but they can be further elucidated in the case of our work in Gaya by means of Statement J, which I have not been able to complete for any of the other districts except Champaran. From Statement J it appears that the area held in these 441 villages by the landlord themselves, whether proprietors or proprietary assignees, is very small, amounting to only 1,863 acres, or less than 1 per cent. of the whole area surveyed. Of the same total area, 58,267 acres, or about 28 per cent. of the whole, are uncultivated and unoccupied, and a small area of 1,012 acres, less than 1 per cent. of the whole, has been handed over to Government or the District Board for roads and public buildings.

20. The area held by raiyats, including rent-free holders, is 134,999 acres, or 66 per cent. of the whole, and the following figures show what proportion of this area is held by the different classes of raiyats, and on what terms it is held the from the landlords:—

CLASS OF RAIYATS.	Number.	Percentage of total number of holdings.	Area held.	Percentage of total area.	Average area per holding.	Area on produce rent.	Average area on produce rent per holding.	Area on cash rent.	Average area on cash rent per holding.	Total rent.	Rent per acre of land on cash rents.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
			Acres.		Acres and decimals.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.
Raiyats on fixed rents ...	1,723	6	4,501	3	2'61	...	...	4,501	2'61	7,636	1 11 3
Settled raiyats ...	22,655	82	95,761	71	4'22	71,957	3'17	23,804	1'05	1,06,108	4 7 3
Non-occupancy raiyats ...	1,137	4	3,320	2	2'92	2,149	1'89	1,171	1'03	5,417	2 14 8
Rent-free holders ...	2,097	7	31,417	23	14'98	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	27,612	...	134,999	...	...	74,106	...	29,476	...	1,17,211	3 15 7

21. From the above figures it will be seen that nearly three-fourths of the rent-paying area is held on produce rents, and that of the whole raiyati area, 23 per cent. is held rent-free, 22 per cent. is held on cash rents, and 55 per cent. is held on produce rents. In addition to the area held by raiyats at fixed rents, it will also appear from Statement K that 4,000 acres of the land included as paying a cash rent and in the hands of settled raiyats are held at fixed rents.

22. Another noticeable feature of the statistics is the size of the holdings of the rent-free raiyats and the large proportion the area held by them bears to the total area.

23. The area held by under-raiyats is too small to need special notice. It will be seen that the totals of Statement J and of Statements L and M do not work up to more than 306 square miles, as compared with 318 square miles given in other statements. The discrepancy will be carefully examined and explained.

24. *Statistics of cultivation and crops.*—From the details of cultivation in Statement L it appears that one-fifth of the cropped area bears two crops in the year, that the aghani and rabi crops cover about equal areas, dividing the whole of the net cropped area between them, and that only about one-sixth of this area bears a bhadoi crop. Of the total area 32 per cent. is uncultivated, and of the uncultivated area, 2 per cent. is returned as current fallow, 63 per cent. as culturable other than current fallow, and 36 per cent. as unculturable. The return of current fallow is probably under the mark, and the proportion it should bear of the total uncultivated lands should be larger. Over 7 per cent. of the total area appears as "mango groves"—a much larger proportion than would have been looked for by my Assistant Settlement Officers, who have found the treeless character of much of the area they have dealt with a great addition to the troubles of their camping.

25. The statistics of irrigation show that 12 per cent. of the total area and 18 per cent. of the net cropped area is irrigated from various sources. Of the 24,383 acres irrigated, 8,234 acres are supplied with water from 580 wells, an average of 14 acres to each well, while nearly half this acreage is irrigated from the pynes and ahars which are such a prominent feature of cultivation in Gaya. But I am inclined to think that the area artificially irrigated has been slightly under-estimated. I regret that owing to defects in the old form in which these statistics were originally compiled, I am unable to give figures as to the crops irrigated. A large amount of rice land is irrigated by Government canals, and much of the area under poppy is irrigated from wells.

26. Rice is grown in 42 per cent. of the net area cropped, and khesari, a millet included in column 9 of the crop statement, occupies nearly 15,000 acres, or about 14 per cent. Wheat is found in 8 per cent. of the area, and sweet potatoes of various kinds in 7 per cent.; and although the poppy crop is very highly cultivated and gives a very large outturn per acre, it occupies as much as 2 per cent. of the net cropped area.

27. *General remarks.*—We have received very little opposition from the raiyats or from other persons affected by our operations, and we are indebted to the Manager of the Raj and his circle officers for their cordial co-operation in all matters. I also wish to acknowledge the value of the work done by Mr. G. T. Hall, the Assistant Superintendent of Survey, who has done much hard and excellent work in the face of considerable difficulties. Babu Annada Charan Gupta has continued to show intelligence and energy in his supervision and general conduct of the operations; and although I have had considerable difficulty in working the head-quarters office up to a proper standard of efficiency, it shows much improvement, and will soon, I hope, cease altogether to give us trouble.

Mr. Rowland Nagendra Lal Chandra was conspicuous for the general excellence of his attestation work, but Maulavi Mohiuddin Ahmed, Babu Jogendra Chandra Bhanja, and Babu Charu Charan Chatterji all did good service.

A.—Staff of Officers.

OFFICERS.	Work engaged on.	Period of employment.	Days on tour.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
Mr. C. C. Warburton	In charge of Settlement Office.	From 1st October to 1st November 1894.	...	
Babu Annada Ch. Gupta.	Supervision and case-work. In charge of Settlement Office.	From 1st November 1894 to 30th September 1895.	192	
Babu Jogindra Chandra Bhanja.	Attestation and khanapuri.	From 8th November 1894 to 20th April 1895.	151	Reverted to general duty.
Maulvi Mohiuddin Ahmed.	Ditto ...	From 1st November 1894 to 22nd April 1895.	154	On deputation to Nowada for eight days. Reverted to general duty.
Babu Charu Chandra Chatterji.	Attestation work ...	From 1st November 1894 to 12th March 1895.	124	Transferred to Tippera settlement.
Mr. Rowland N. L. Chandra.	Ditto ...	From 4th November 1894 to 15th April 1895.	160	Went on privilege leave from 15th April, and subsequently returned to general duty.
Babu Gopi Krishna Lal.	Ditto ...	From 1st to 16th November 1894.	16	Reverted to general duty.

B.—Statement of general progress.

Division.	District.	Name of estate or tract under settlement.	Estimated area in square miles under settlement of revenue or rents.	Total number of villages.	AREA CADASTRAALLY SURVEYED IN SQUARE MILES—			NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN PREPARED FOR ATTESTATION—			NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH THE DRAFT RECORD OF RIGHTS HAS BEEN PUBLISHED UNDER SECTION 106(1) OF THE BENGAL TENANCY ACT—			NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH THE FINAL RECORD OF RIGHTS HAS BEEN PUBLISHED UNDER SECTION 106(2) OF THE BENGAL TENANCY ACT—			Estimated number of tenants in the villages in column 6.	Number of tenants whose rent has been recorded and status determined in khatahs finally published under section 106(2) of the Bengal Tenancy Act.	NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED—					COST DURING THE YEAR.		
					Up to the end of the year.	During the year.	Total area surveyed.	Up to the end of the year.	During the year.	Up to the end of the year.	During the year.	Up to the end of the year.	During the year.	Up to the end of the year.	During the year.	Up to the end of the year.			During the year.	Up to the end of the year.	In the year under report.	Total.	Former rental of tenants included in column 21.	New rental settled for tenants included in column 21.	Rs.	Rs.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
Patna	Gaya...	Tikari Ward's estate.	334.03	552	318.03	68.00	384.03	443	109	...	441	...	440	...	...	50,000	...	...	111	111	2,883	3,740	...	...	...	...
		Government estates.	90.9	115	...	88.00	88.00	...	109	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Balkara Mahals.	90.43	87	15.90	...	15.90	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Total	665.36	754	334.53	134	488.53	458	218	...	441	...	440	...	...	70,000	...	...	111	111	...	...	...	...	...	...

(a) The Settlement Officer apparently includes villages recently added to the programme.

W. O. M.

C.—Annual Report of Khanapuri Work.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER EMPLOYED.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH KHANAPURI WORK WAS COMPLETED—			Area of villages in which khana-puri has been completed to end of the year.	Number of villages inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of amins inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of plots of which the khassa entries were tested.	REMARKS.
				Up to end of the preceding year.	During the year.	Up to end of the preceding year.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Babu Annada Charan Gupta Kishore Chandra Khanja Mahabir Mohiuddin Ahmed	Gaya	748	555.76	448	218	154.00	10	19	19	289	
Total		...	...	448	218	154	50	50	50	541	

D.—Annual Return of Boundary Disputes dealt with under the Bengal Tenancy Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Number instituted up to the end of the previous year.	Number instituted during the year.	Total.	Number disposed of to end of the previous year.	Number disposed of during the year.	Total.	Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE MONTH UNDER REPORT—					REMARKS.
								Instituted.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Babu Annada Charan Gupta..	213	240	453	115	331	446	7	11	11	9	1	1	

E.—Annual Return of Attestation Work, including final publication of Records.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.				NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT-PUBLISHED—		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED—		REMARKS.
				of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	of plots.	of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	of plots.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During year.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During year.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Babu Jogendra Chandra Bhanja.	Circle I ...	103	84'69	...	...	...	...	103	84'69	See Statement I.	66,953	...	103	...	...	
Maulavi Mohiuddin Ahmed.	" II ...	115	84'42	...	...	...	...	115	84'42		124,576	...	115	...	...	
Babu Charu Chandra Chatterji.	" III ...	95	65'23	...	...	...	...	95	65'23		110,705	...	95	...	...	
Mr. Rowland N. L. Chandra.	" IV ...	128	83'39	...	...	...	...	128	83'39		86,603	...	128	...	...	
Total ...	...	441	317'73	...	...	...	...	441	317'73		388,837	...	440	...	...	

F.—Annual Return of Cases under section 104 of the Tenancy Act for Settlement of Fair Rents.

[illegible]

G.—Annual Return of Objections under section 105 and Disputes under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Nature of case.	Number instituted up to the end of the previous year.	Number instituted during the year.	Total.	Number disposed of to end of the previous year.	Number disposed of during the year.	Total.	Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT—					REMARKS.
									Instituted.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
											Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Babu Annada Charan Gupta.	(1) Objections heard and considered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act.	...	359	359	...	359	359	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	(2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.	...	20	20	...	16	16	4	...	...	...	...	...	

H.—Financial Statement.

	Budget allotment for 1894-95.	Total expenditure during the survey year 1893-94.	Total expenditure during the survey year 1894-95.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
<i>Salaries—</i>		Rs.	Rs.	The "budget allotment" represents half the allotment of two separate financial years, and cannot be compared fairly with the expenditure. No portion of the pay of the Settlement Officer has as yet been debited to these operations. P. C. LYON. 24th October 1894.
Settlement Officer	1,800	.....	.....	
Assistant Settlement Officers...	8,000	.....	8,694	
<i>Establishment—</i>				
Of Settlement Officer (including clerks and servants).	1,372	.....	1,159	
<i>Temporary establishment—</i>				
Of Settlement Officer (including field establishment).	3,861	.....	5,579	
Jote (contract) work	5,000	.....	7,848	
<i>Travelling allowance—</i>				
Of officers (including establishment).	2,417	.....	4,487	
<i>Supplies and Services—</i>				
Purchase of tent	750	.....	1,924	
<i>Contingencies—</i>				
Office or ground rent	750	.....	825	
<i>Miscellaneous—</i>				
(Unforeseen)	2,900	.....	2,588	
Total	26,850	5,033	33,104	

K.—Details of area held on cash rent (including village sites).

Number of Villages.		Shikam.	Chakat.	Paran.	Nagdi.	Total.	
						Area.	Bent.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
441	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		8,301'73	10,106'5	70'23	1,153'64	19,831'84	Rs. A. P. 1,17,099 9 10

L.—Details of Area.

Total number of villages.	CROPPED AREA.						Current fallow.	CULTIVABLE AREA OTHER THAN CURRENT FALLOW.						AREA NOT AVAILABLE FOR CULTIVATION.			
	Bhadol.	Aghani.	Rabi.	Total.	Dofali.	Net cropped area.		Old fallow.	Mango groves.	Culturable jungle.	Other kinds.	Total.	House sites.	Water.	Other kinds.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
441 ...	23,312'12	67,319'89	67,469'16	168,101'17	24,655'11	133,446'06	1,567'07	22,373'72	14,274'07	1,583'09	375'32	38,605'20	10,860'81	7,964'32	3,036'97	22,522'10	

Total uncultivated, columns 8, 13 and 17.	Total area, columns 7 and 18.	Irrigated area.	IRRIGATED AREA AND HOW IRRIGATED.					DETAILS OF IRRIGATED AREA AS REGARDS CROPS.						NUMBER OF WELLS.		REMARKS.
			Irrigated from wells.	Irrigated from Govern-ment canals.	Irrigated from private canals.	Irrigated from tanks and aharas.	Irrigated from other sources.	Rice.	Wheat.	Other cereals and pulses.	Other food-crops.	Non-food-crops.	Masonry.	Earthen.		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	
62,694	196,140'43	24,382'92	8,234'10	4,172'72	..	11,244'03	732'07	..	..	..	..	..	No. 383	No. 197		

M.—Crop Statement.

Total number of villages.	CEREALS AND PULSE.										OILSEEDS.					Condiments and spices.		SUGAR.		FIBRES.																
	Rice.		Wheat.		Barley.		Jowar (millet).		Mandua.		Maize.		Gram.		Urid.		Bajra (millet).		Other food-grains, including pulses.		Linseed.		Til or jujira.		Others.		Sugarcane.		Others.		Cotton.		Jute.		Others.	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34		
441	...	57,200-93	11,433-92	6,536-36	2,750-20	8,239-27	4,700-34	6,930-20	1,230-04	...	30,765-09	5,734-15	...	695-19	120-43	35	...	127-19	108-27	126																

cxvi

DYES.	DRUGS AND NARCOTICS.										Fodder crops.	Garden produce and orchards other than mango groves.	MISCELLANEOUS CROPS.				Total.	Area cropped more than once.	(31-32) net area cropped.	REMARKS.
	Indigo.	Others.	Opium.	Coffee.	Tea.	Tobacco.	Cinchona.	Indian hemp.	Others.	Food.			Non-food.							
										Potatoes.			Yams.							
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35					
272	...	8,737'15	...	...	275'48	...	...	...	...	4,033'23	442'16	9,644'43	2,213'09	158,101'17	24,655'11	133,446'6				

P. C. LYON,
Settlement Officer.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

LAND REVENUE.

CALCUTTA, THE 14TH DECEMBER 1895.

RESOLUTION—No. 5421.

READ—

Letter No. 1244A., dated the 6th December 1895, from the Board of Revenue, submitting the Reports of the Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture on Settlements and Land Records, and the Deputy Surveyor-General on Surveys, in Bengal, for the year ending the 30th September 1895.

THE Lieutenant-Governor is glad to be able to review the Settlement and Survey Reports for the survey year ending 30th September, 1895, before his term of office expires.

The Reports.

He has to acknowledge the punctuality with which, in accordance with his wishes, as expressed in the Resolution of the 13th April 1895 on the Reports for 1893-94, Mr. Macpherson and Colonel Sandeman have collected the materials from the officers under them and submitted their reports, and he is obliged to the Board for sending them on to Government with their review so expeditiously. His Honour trusts that the Settlement Officers will find it a relief to have done with their accounts of the work of a previous year before embarking on the cold-weather field operations of the current year; and that in future the same commendable promptness may be observed by all concerned. The reports are not so long in either case as in the previous year: chiefly, because there have been fewer points of principle for discussion and record. But they omit nothing which deserves to be included for comment and future reference.

2. Colonel J. E. Sandeman, I.S.C., was Director of Bengal Surveys throughout the year, but was absent on leave from 19th April to the end of September 1895, during which time the current duties of his office were conducted by Captains Fleming and Hodgson, under the orders of Colonel Wilkins, Officiating Deputy Surveyor-General. Since 25th March, Colonel Sandeman has been Deputy Surveyor-General, and his direct connection with Bengal surveys has ceased. He was on tour for 93 days during the first six months of the year, inspecting the work in progress in Bihar, Orissa, the Darjeeling Terai, and the Kolhan. Mr. W. C. Macpherson, C.S., was in charge of the office of Director of Land Records and Agriculture throughout the year, and altogether spent 148 days on tour, distributed over nine months of the year. He visited all the settlements of importance under his charge, and attended several conferences, besides being much engaged with the Land Records Maintenance Act, III (B.C.) of 1895.

The Lieutenant-Governor inspected the settlement work in North Bihar and Gaya in November 1894, the settlement office at Muzaffarpur in August 1895, and discussed the Orissa settlement work at Chandbali in July 1895. The Member of the Board of Revenue in charge of the Department was unable to inspect any of the major settlements during the year.

3. During the year the Board's Survey and Settlement Manuals of 1888 were revised and amalgamated into one work by Mr. E. W. Collin, C.S., on special duty. Survey and Settlement Manuals. Short rules for petty surveys and settlements were also drawn up by the same officer. The revised Manual has been issued for the guidance of Settlement Officers in the season now commencing, has been reviewed by the Board, and is now being finally issued with the approval of Government.

4. Colonel Sandeman has brought together in a convenient form (para-graph 36) the outturn in square miles year by year, 1894-95. and the total outturn for five years, of all kinds of survey, including record-writing. The whole area traversed by the theodolite (on which the survey of details on various scales is based) has covered 18,822½ square miles, *i.e.*, about one-eighth of the area of the whole Province. The figures of the detail survey work are as follows:—cadastral survey with records, 12,159½ square miles; cadastral survey without records, 1,034 square miles; skeleton boundary survey, 1,752 square miles; city survey, 15 square miles; topographical, 1,737 square miles; forest, 501 square miles: aggregate outturn, 17,198½ square miles. In the outturn of cadastral survey are included the revision of previous cadastral surveys of 958 square miles, and the revision of the previous records of 417 square miles.

5. Settlement work was in progress during the year under the control of the Director of Land Records in Districts containing the following areas:—(1) for revision of land revenue in temporarily-settled estates and Government estates, 7,813 square miles; (2) for survey and record of rights (not connected with settlement of land revenue) in estates other than wards' estates, 9,872 square miles; (3) for survey and record of rights in wards' estates, 760 square miles; total 18,445 square miles, as compared with 13,037 square miles in 1893-94, and 12,490 square miles in 1892-93. The following statement shows the general outturn and cost of survey-settlement work under the control of the two Directors during the year 1894-95, as compared with the three preceding years, according to the reports received (a):—

YEAR.	Traverse survey.	Skeleton boundary survey.	Forest survey.	Topographical survey.	Cadastral survey.	Record-writing.	Hill sketching.	Cost of survey.	Cost of settlement.	Total cost.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1891-92	4,714	131	327	379	2,284*	1,471	194	5,32,269	4,62,480	10,58,749
1892-93	5,324	1,247	.....	.....	3,078	2,350	.....	7,38,300	5,06,561	12,89,270
1893-94	3,485	175	.....	.....	3,754†	3,637	.....	6,90,125	5,53,298	12,43,353
1894-95	3,091	23	.....	1,026	2,786‡	5,120§	.....	6,04,304	6,97,135	13,01,439
Total	16,614	1,632	327	1,405	11,902	11,158	194	26,75,007	22,17,804	48,92,811

(a) Revised figures have been furnished in certain cases for previous years.

* Includes 363 square miles revision survey in Cuttack.

† Ditto revision survey of 105 square miles in Puri and 63 square miles in Gaya.

‡ Ditto 424 square miles revision survey in Muzaffarpur.

§ Ditto 417 square miles ditto ditto.

The cost of survey and settlements incurred by Government from the beginning of the operations up to the 30th September 1895 in Orissa, Chittagong, and the Western Duars—the three principal areas which have been, and with the exception of the Duars still are, under settlement of land revenue—has increased from nearly 32 lakhs to nearly 36 lakhs of rupees. The expenditure in wards' estates on account of survey and settlement proceedings has been Rs. 71,147, Rs. 1,30,223, and Rs. 85,539 in the last three years. In private estates other than wards' estates, the expenditure was Rs. 5,94,144 in 1893-94, and has been Rs. 6,34,609 in 1894-95.

6. In the following paragraphs the progress made in the larger survey-settlements will be reviewed in the same order as in preceding years.

7. The Bihar survey was first taken in hand experimentally in the District of Muzaffarpur in 1885, soon after the passing of the Bengal Tenancy Act, but was stopped in 1886, when the survey party under Colonel Barron had completed—

	Sq. miles.
Traverse survey	803
Cadastral "	414
Record-writing	414

Orders for the resumption of the work were received in September 1891, and a traverse party took the field on the 19th December 1891, but the full strength of the establishment was not at work until about the 10th January

1892. The following table shows the survey work done in each District, season by season :—

	TRAVERSE SURVEY.		CADASTRAL SURVEY.		RECORD-WRITING..		Total cost of cadastral survey and record-writing.	COST RATE PER SQUARE MILE.			Cost of survey and record-writing per acre.	Expenditure on settlement.
	Area in square miles.	Cost.	Number of villages.	Area in square miles.	Number of villages.	Area in square miles.		Traverse survey.	Cadastral survey and record-writing (approximate).	Total cost (approximate).		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Muzaffarpur.	1891-92	1,247	Rs. 47,290	.....	.....	.....	Rs.	Rs. 34.7	.....	.....	As.	Rs.
	1892-93	907	38,513	1,153	529	1,052	76,413	38.6	152.1	190.7	Nearly 5	34,301
	1893-94	Nil	6,805	1,594	979	1,365	1,27,045	.....	146.3	.....	Over 34	58,079
	Original work	.....	2,840	604	653	987	1,19,073	.....	139.3	.....	Nearly 34	.....
	Revision of Colonel Barron's survey.	.....	.....	650	410	650	45,765	.....	123.8	.....	Over 3	1,23,342
Champaran.	1891-92	.....	.....	8	14	5	530	.....	73	.....	Nearly 2	.....
	1892-93	363	12,601	.....	.....	.....	.....	34.7	.....	.....	.....	.....
	1893-94	1,103	39,651	244	416	320	41,182	27.8	109.1	136.9	Nearly 34	21,809
	1894-95	1,320	50,498	325	517	509	71,494	38.3	129.2	167.5	Over 4	70,144*
Saran	1891-92	126	8,205	1,038	1,162	1,053	1,56,358	65.2	134	199.2	Nearly 5	57,670
	1892-93	894	34,527	.....	.....	.....	2,366	38.6	.....	.....	.....	.....
	1893-94	932	34,273	1,260	549	1,229	65,290	36.8	119.2	156	Nearly 4	.....
	1894-95	516	15,238	.....	.....	.....	10,287	29.5	.....	.....	.....	36,460
Darbhanga.	1893-94	518	16,340	.....	.....	.....	.....	31.6	.....	.....	.....	.....
	1894-95	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		8,016	2,93,786	6,936	5,234	6,934	7,16,268	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	1891-92	1,610	55,891	1,397	945	1,286	1,19,961	35	.....	.....	.....	.....
	1892-93	2,994	1,03,636	1,397	945	786	1,19,961	35	139	174	Nearly 44	56,101
	1893-94	2,770	1,07,916	3,179	2,045	2,948	2,63,739	39	132	171	Over 4	1,23,223
	1894-95	642	28,283	2,360	2,244	2,531	3,32,568	40	137	178	„ 44	2,22,472
		8,016	2,93,786	6,936	5,234	6,934	7,16,268	37	137	174	Nearly 44	4,06,796

* (Including Saran.)

The total survey work done and remaining to be done in each District down to the end of September 1895, is as follows:—

DISTRICT.	WORK DONE.				REMAINING TO BE DONE.			REMARKS.
	Total area of district.	Traverse survey.	Cadastral survey.	Record-writing.	Traverse survey.	Cadastral survey.	Record-writing.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Muzaffarpur	Sq. miles. 3,070	Sq. miles. 3,047*	Sq. miles. 2,590	Sq. miles. 2,609	Sq. miles. Nil	Sq. miles. 480	Sq. miles. 461	* This includes 803 square miles traversed in 1885-86.
Champaran	3,575	2,912	2,095	2,095	365†	1,182‡	1,182	† All of this area is subject to river action.
Saran	2,622	2,342	549	527	280†	2,073	2,095	‡ Excludes 298 square miles or more of jungle and hills not to come under cadastral survey.
Darbhangha	3,233	518	.....	.....	2,715	3,233	3,233	
Total	12,500	8,819	5,234	5,231	3,360	6,968	6,971	

NOTE.—The excess of record-writing over survey is due to the inclusion in the former of some villages of which the survey was made, but the records were not prepared, by Colonel Barron.

The traverse survey having gone far ahead of the cadastral survey, no work was done in Darbhanga during the past season. The survey work in the District of Muzaffarpur falls under three different heads, viz.—

- (1) Original cadastral survey with record-writing, which was done on the system described in the Resolution No. 2031, dated the 13th April 1894, on the Report for 1893-94;
- (2) Revision of the cadastral survey and record-writing done by Colonel Barron in 1885-86; and
- (3) Correction of the maps and records of certain villages belonging to the Darbhanga Raj, which were surveyed and settled in 1878-79, under Mr. Finucane's supervision.

With regard to (1), the Lieutenant-Governor notices with satisfaction that the record-writing is now absolutely up to date with the field survey, and that the arrears of previous seasons have been completed. It is reported that

some of the petty proprietors in Muzaffarpur brought pressure on their tenants either to absent themselves from the record-writing or to repudiate their claims if they had previously put forward any; but, notwithstanding this, the raiyats are reported to have shown a much keener interest in the proceedings during the past year than previously, and to have at last arrived at a proper understanding of the value of the "parchas" given to them. The revision of Colonel Barron's survey entailed the survey of village sites in detail, the correction of the maps with reference to waste lands newly brought under cultivation and new roads, and to changes of boundaries and other changes which have occurred since 1885-86, the rewriting of the khewats and khatians, and the revision of khasras in red ink. The alterations in the khasras have proved to be very numerous, and, in 16 of the villages dealt with last year, it was found necessary to write entirely new khasras. In the revision of Mr. Finucane's survey of the Darbhanga Raj villages, as few alterations as possible have been made in the maps prepared in 1878-79, but all extensions of cultivation and new topographical items were carefully surveyed. This part of the work has hitherto cost only Rs. 16·1 per square mile, but the revision of the records has proved more difficult, and has cost Rs. 56·9 per square mile. In Champaran the outturn of field survey amounted to 1,162 square miles. It is reported that had it not been for the unhealthiness of the northern tract late in the season, on account of which the field work had to be closed, the whole 1,200 square miles would have been accomplished.

8. The Board remark (in paragraph 14 of their letter) on the great extent to which the records of Colonel Barron's survey needed revision, and the large cost entailed, as compared with the cost of revising Mr. Finucane's survey of the Darbhanga villages which was made a much longer time ago. The explanation lies perhaps in the fact that Colonel Barron's area contains a mass of involved coparcenary tenures, while Mr. Finucane's villages belong to a single proprietor; but the chief difference is that the figures as to Mr. Finucane's survey apply only to five villages, and are not complete for them. Such comparison cannot be usefully instituted unless the areas are large. The Lieutenant-Governor also understands that the number of changes registered includes changes in the names of the occupants of the boundary fields. In this way a transfer or succession in the tenancy of a single field entails changes not only in the entries regarding that field, but in those regarding the four fields which bound it on four sides. These figures must be more carefully edited before any conclusions can be drawn from them as to the amount of change which has taken place. The Lieutenant-Governor, however, agrees with the Board that the cost of revising the records in Colonel Barron's area, Rs. 86 per square mile, is excessive, and it probably indicates that revision is being carried out in unnecessary detail. He trusts that Captain Crichton will give his attention to this matter during the current year.

9. The settlement staff took the field in November 1892, and first broke ground in the District of Muzaffarpur. Work was also commenced in Champaran during the same season, and was extended to Saran in 1893-94. The following statement shows the principal items of work done in each District since the beginning:—

	ATTESTATION.				DRAFT RECORDS PUBLISHED.	SETTLEMENT OF FAIR RENTS UNDER SECTION 104.			CASES UNDER SECTION 105.		CASES UNDER SECTION 106.		FINAL RECORDS PUBLISHED.
	Area in square miles.	Number of villages.	Number of plots.	Number of tenancies.	Number of villages.	Number of cases disposed of.	Number of tenants affected.	Rents raised or lowered by decisions up to date.	Number of objections filed.	Number of objections disposed of.	Number instituted.	Number disposed of.	Number of villages.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Muzaffarpur	1892-93 ... 66	320	119,821	35,799	811	66	713	+8'33	928	863	363	187	.....
	1893-94 ... 376	712	487,099	150,069	636	117	2,273		3,235	3,029	952	840	.....
	1894-95 ... 746·40	1,361	1,180,745	279,004	1,263	435	2,646		7,492	6,568	808	870	768
Champaran	1892-93 ... 46·43	76	34,340	7,774	75	38	1,335	+11'35	48	43	40	27	.....
	1893-94 ... 380	185	329,511	61,022	185	184	15,780		2,356	2,226	206	203	.....
	1894-95 ... 491·46	376	470,660	73,695	316	323	17,896		1,630	1,097	320	328	247
Saran	1893-94 ... 19	68	33,155	5,130	68	33	426	+13'85	1,034	947	41	31	.....
	1894-95 ... 487·41	1,160	749,533	125,315	285	1,787	19,783		415	98	23	21	57
Total	1892-93 ... 112·43	396	154,161	43,573	386	104	2,098	.....	974	916	403	214	.....
	1893-94 ... 775	965	843,765	216,221	949	334	18,419	.....	6,625	6,202	1,199	1,074	.....
	1894-95 ... 1,725·28	2,897	2,350,938	478,014	1,846	2,545	40,325	.....	9,597	7,763	1,151	1,319	1,072
GRAND TOTAL	2,612·69	4,258	3,348,664	737,808	3,181	2,983	60,842	.....	17,196	14,881	2,753	2,507	1,072

10. The programme for the settlement staff in Muzaffarpur for the season 1894-95 was (1) to attest the records of about 758 square miles which had been dealt with by the survey staff in 1893-94, (2) to supervise the record-writing and decide boundary disputes in an area of 1,367 square miles, and (3) to complete the records of 376 square miles attested in 1893-94, and case-work in the area to be attested in 1894-95. The Settlement Officer, Mr. P. C. Lyon, had a staff of 14 Assistant Settlement Officers employed during the working season, and five during the recess. The record-writing was supervised by the Settlement Officer and five Assistant Settlement Officers, but Mr. Lyon writes that on account of ill-health and other causes the supervision was less continuous than he would have wished. The work of settling boundary disputes was not so heavy as in the previous year, the number of cases filed being 376, against 593 in 1893-94, although the area dealt with was much more extensive. Since the commencement of the operations, 1,267 of these disputes have been filed, of which 1,243 have been disposed of; and out of 67 appeals decided, the summary orders of the Revenue Officers have been upheld in 62, modified in 3 (1 by compromise) and reversed in two cases. The Lieutenant-Governor agrees with the Director of Land Records and the Settlement Officer in considering these results to be very satisfactory. Nine officers were employed on attestation work, the programme for which was nearly completed, the average outturn for each officer being 22,000 plots per mensem. This is a better result than that of 1893-94, when the average outturn slightly exceeded the standard rate of 20,000 plots per mensem, and is specially satisfactory considering that in Muzaffarpur landlords are numerous, tenancies small, and disputes very frequent. One Assistant Settlement Officer was employed exclusively on case-work, and four more did this work during the recess. Cases under sections 104 and 105 of the Bengal Tenancy Act were more numerous than in the preceding year. The figures given in columns 7 to 9 of the statement above relate for the most part to rents settled on applications made by private landlords or by tenants. Of the 435 cases disposed of during the year in the Muzaffarpur district, 111 were filed by European indigo planters, out of which 69 were subsequently withdrawn "as having been filed by mistake for very small claims." The total number of tenants for whom fair rents have been settled from the beginning is 5,632, which is only a little more than one per cent. of the 464,872 tenants for whom existing rents have been recorded, and the increase of rent on the total attested rental is less than $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., or 8 annas in Rs. 100. Of the enhancements hitherto decreed, Rs. 3,535 have been given on the ground of increased area, and only Rs. 123 on that of prevailing rate. In the Government villages in the riverain area, 29 cases affecting 595 tenants were disposed of, and the rents raised from Rs. 1,487 to Rs. 2,847; but the increase is not real, as the farmers and raiyats had colluded and caused figures far below the reality to be entered as existing rents. Up to the end of 1894-95, 14 appeals against fair rent decisions had been preferred; and out of 13 decided, the decisions of the Revenue Officers had been upheld in 11 cases and modified in two. Although the operations extended over a larger area, the number of suits under section 106 fell from 952 in 1893-94 to 808 in 1894-95. This is attributed to the orders of the Government of India, No. $\frac{2820}{24}$, dated the 1st October 1894, prescribing *ad valorem* fees, and to instructions issued by the Settlement Officer as to a charge of a court-fee of Rs. 10 on all such plaints. Mr. Lyon's instruction is understood to have the support of the Special Judge; but the subject is under consideration.

11. With regard to cases under section 106 of the Tenancy Act, Mr. Lyon writes as follows:—

"In my Annual Report last year I gave some reasons for a respectful protest against the work thrown upon us by section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act, and it is for those reasons that I have said above that I do not think we should cheapen this form of litigation in our Courts. The Special Judge has again reiterated his ruling that we have no concern, in dealing with these cases, with questions of right and title, and in his advice as to the levy of a court-fee of Rs. 10 in all cases, on the ground that it is impossible to determine, for the purposes of an *ad valorem* fee, the value of our decisions, he has clearly intimated that those decisions differ in many respects from the decrees of Civil Courts. At the same time, the ruling of the High Court in the case of Pandit Sirdar renders practically valueless all our

proceedings in the very numerous cases between landlord and landlord and raiyat and raiyat. * * * It does not seem to me that we act with due consideration for the interests of the disputants in encouraging them to embark on expensive litigation in our Courts for the purpose of obtaining decrees which will certainly not be looked upon with favour by the Civil Courts, even under the most favourable circumstances, and which will in many cases be treated by them as of no legal value whatsoever. I think that we should confine our settlement proceedings to the preparation of a record which will carry a presumption in favour of the correctness of the entries in it, and that all our enquiries should be summary in their nature and untrammelled by the procedure of Courts whose decisions are decrees. And I fully believe that all parties concerned would welcome such a change, the present law having failed already to give satisfaction to parties who wish for a final settlement of their disputes and an end to litigation."

This decision of the High Court, that the powers of Settlement Officers to settle disputes with the authority of a Civil Court under section 106 of the Tenancy Act are confined to disputes between landlord and tenant and do not extend to disputes between landlord and landlord and tenant and tenant, is a serious blow to the completeness of the record of rights, and defeats the intention of the Legislature. It is one of several points as to which Sir Charles Elliott has drawn up a Minute showing in what respects amendment of the law is necessary in order to make the settlement procedure simple and efficient.

12. In consequence of ill-health, the Settlement Officer, Mr. E. G. Colvin, had to take leave from the 23rd February 1895, and Mr. Lyon was placed in charge of this district as well as of Saran, in addition to his duties as Settlement Officer of Muzaffarpur. During the greater part of the field season of 1894-95, when the settlement staff was at its maximum, nine Assistant Settlement Officers were employed in Champaran, four on record-writing, four on attestation, and one on case-work; and three were engaged on case-work throughout the recess. The programme of work was (1) the attestation of the records of 500 square miles, (2) supervision of record-writing and disposal of boundary disputes in 1,168 square miles, and (3) case-work under sections 104, 105, and 106 in the 500 square miles to be attested. Record-writing was inspected in 542 villages, and orders passed on 362 boundary disputes. Twenty-one appeals in village boundary cases were decided, in 19 of which the orders of the Revenue Officers were upheld, in one case modified, and in one reversed. The attestation programme was practically completed before the end of April, and the average outturn of work for each officer per mensem amounted to about 21,500 plots. The following is an extract from the Settlement Officer's report:—

"On the whole the attestation work was carried through with a remarkable absence of friction. A large proportion of the area dealt with was held by three large indigo concerns; and very great assistance was given to us in the preparation of the records by the managers and assistants of the factories. The attendance both of landlords and raiyats was good; and with the help of carefully kept and systematically arranged zamindari papers most of the difficulties of the attestation work were quickly surmounted."

Applications for settlement of fair-rents have been filed in much greater numbers in this District and in Saran than in Muzaffarpur. Fair rents have been settled in Champaran for not quite 25 per cent. of the 142,491 tenants for whom existing rents had been recorded down to the end of September 1895, and the percentage of increase of rent for the 35,001 tenants for whom rents have been settled is 11.35. During the year 323 cases against 17,896 tenants have been decided, and an enhancement of Rs. 15,438, or 10.5 per cent., decreed. Of this total, only Rs. 780 were given on the ground of prevailing rate, and the remainder on account of excess areas, no enhancement having been decreed on the ground of rise in prices. A large part of the increase has been decreed in accordance with compromises arranged between the landlords and tenants. The Director observes that there has been a noticeable decrease in the percentage of increase given, as the work has proceeded from areas in the north, where there is much waste land, to areas more south, where there is less waste land. Since the beginning of the operations, 23 appeals against fair-rent decisions have been decided; in 15 of these, the decisions of the Revenue Officers have been upheld and in 8 modified. As regards case-work under sections 105 and 106, out of 29 appeals instituted, the decisions of the Revenue Officers have been upheld in all the four cases hitherto decided.

13. Six Assistant Settlement Officers were employed in this District for nearly the whole of the year, five on attestation and one on case-work during the cold weather; and five on case-work during the recess. The programme was to attest the records and dispose of case-work under sections 104, 105 and 106 in an area of 487 square miles, and to complete the case-work and finally publish the records of the 68 villages attested during 1893-94. The programme of attestation work was completed, each officer having dealt with over 24,000 plots a month. This is the largest rate of attestation work attained during the year in any District, but work was facilitated by the fact that the area taken up belonged almost entirely to one proprietor, the Maharaja of Hatwa, and by the good records kept by the estate. The Settlement Officer states that in this District the people generally have followed the settlement operations with keener interest and appreciation than anywhere else in Bihar. Enhancement suits are brought by the Raj against every raiyat who is found by the survey to be in occupation of more land than he held when the estate was measured 20 years ago, and also against those who are found to hold at favourable rates. The number of tenants involved in these suits is over 30,000, or about 23 per cent. of the entire number of tenants. Including 426 persons dealt with in 1893-94, rents have been settled in all for 20,209 tenants, but in the case of about 17,000 tenants, the rents were settled by compromise between them and the landlord. The net increase of rents allowed down to the end of September 1895 is Rs. 30,067, or 13 per cent. on the rents settled, of which two-thirds are on account of excess area, and one-third on account of prevailing rates. The Settlement Officer estimates that the addition to the Hatwa rent-roll, after the completion of these proceedings, will probably amount to Rs. 50,000. Only one appeal has hitherto been preferred under this head.

Status and rents of tenants.

14. The following table shows the results of the record of the status and rents of tenants in the three districts:—

	MUZAFFARPUR (1,006 VILLAGES—AREA 400 SQUARE MILES).					CHAMPARAN (475 VILLAGES).					SARAN (ABOUT 1,223 VILLAGES).				
	Number of hold-ings.	Percentage.	Cultivated area.	Rent.	Average rent per acre.	Number of hold-ings.	Percentage.	Cultivated area.	Rent.	Average rent per acre.	Number of hold-ings.	Percentage.	Cultivated area.	Rent.	Average rent per acre.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Proprietor's <i>sir</i> land ...	4,515	2.74	10,885.10	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	24	.03	359	.....	.....	2,556	2.30	.....	.....	.....
Held by proprietor, not <i>sir</i> ...	4,969	3.02	13,190.53	.....	.....	202	.31	2,633	.....	.....	776	.69	.....	.....	.....
Tenure-holders ...	1,039	.63	3,394.80	.....	.....	2,525	3.46	22,738	.....	.....	639	.58	.....	.....	.....
Raiyats at fixed rates ...	11,874	7.22	15,326.69	57,099 15 7	3 10 11	651	.89	7,887	6,426	0 13 0	265	.18	.....	.....	.....
Settled raiyats ...	123,912	75.35	162,840.40	5,96,677 2 9	3 10 7	55,470	77.42	225,266	3,32,826	1 7 5	89,061	80.07	.....	.....	.....
Occupancy raiyats ...	3,277	1.99	2,859.99	13,618 8 5	4 12 3	9,479	12.99	15,232	25,883	1 11 0	7,176	6.38	.....	.....	.....
Non-occupancy raiyats ...	5,969	3.64	4,206.89	18,556 10 3	4 6 7	3,521	4.84	7,841	.....	.....	10,960	9.75	.....	.....	.....
Rent-free holders ...	5,821	3.54	3,895.95	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diara ...	3,000	1.82	9,227.87	27,657 1 0	2 15 11	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	164,496	.....	225,808.22	7,13,609 6 0	.....	72,632	.....	2,82,976	3,65,142	.....	112,317	.....	.....	.....	.....

A study of this table throws a great deal of light on the agricultural economy of these Districts, and tends to disperse many fallacies. The quantity of land held as proprietor's *sir*, and the area under non-occupancy tenants, appear wonderfully small compared with an average North-Western Provinces District. The area under "settled tenants" is, on the other hand, very large, and testifies to the benefits conferred by the wise legislation of the Tenancy Act. The average rent-rate is extremely low in Champaran, and not at all exceptionally high in Muzaffarpur, even after allowance is made for the error made in the Settlement Office in not separating produce-paying from cash-rented land. The failure to prepare the table for Saran is very regrettable, for the Settlement Officer's belief that the average rate is Rs. 4 per acre may turn out to be mistaken. In Muzaffarpur he guesses that the exclusion of produce-rented lands will bring up the cash rate by 10 per cent., in which case the incidence on settled tenants will be Rs. 4 per acre. For 378 villages, covering about 100 square miles, the figures are tabulated in more detail, and there settled tenants pay Rs. 5-3-9 per acre, but it is not stated whether this is an average area; or the exceptionally rich land round Hajipur. Mr. Macpherson remarks that Rs. 4 is a high average rate compared with adjoining districts in the North-Western Provinces, but this is a mistake if tracts of equal value are compared. Among the North-Western Provinces districts he has quoted Mirzapur, with its large area of barren hills, and Gorakhpur, which has always been low-rented for the same

reason as the north part of Champaran, viz., that it has lately been reclaimed from jungle. Truer analogues are the Ghazipur and Ballia districts, where the rates exceed Rs. 4, and Azamgarh, where 20 years ago Mr. J. R. Reid found the average rate to vary from Rs. 4 to Rs. 4-12, and now the rate is reported by the North-Western Provinces Board of Revenue to be about Rs. 5. Saran is a district of exceptionally rich and well-cultivated land, superior in fertility to any of the three North-Western Provinces districts mentioned. It is premature to formulate any definite conclusion from these tables till the figures are more accurately compiled and cover a large area; but, so far as they indicate, they tend to dispel the impression that the North Bihar raiyat is a down-trodden and rack-rented creature. Every district in the North-Western Provinces would envy North Bihar the possession of such a large proportion of land held by settled raiyats, and most districts would think the average rent-rate fair and moderate.

Expenditure.

15. The expenditure on the operations in North Bihar has been as follows:—

	SURVEY.		SETTLEMENT.		TOTAL.		REMARKS.
	During the year.	To end of September 1895.	During the year.	To end of September 1895.	During the year.	To end of September 1895.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Muzaffarpur (a) ...	1,70,753	4,62,821	1,28,342	1,86,420	2,99,095	6,49,241	* This includes the expenditure in Saran in 1893-94. † Does not include portion of the Settlement Officer's pay.
Champaran ...	1,65,063	3,71,492	57,670	1,27,814*	2,22,733	4,99,306	
Saran ...	25,525	1,61,891	36,460	36,460†	61,965	1,98,351	
Darbhangha ...	.....	16,340	.....	.....	.....	16,340	
Total ...	3,61,341	10,12,544	2,22,472	3,50,694	5,83,813	13,63,235	

(a) Including the cost of survey of Muzaffarpur town and Hajipur Municipality.

On the basis of the expenditure incurred, orders have been passed for the recovery of cost, at the rate of 8 annas an acre, in those areas in the Hajipur and Bettiah subdivisions of the districts of Muzaffarpur and Champaran, respectively, where records have been finally published, $\frac{4}{16}$ ths being borne by Government, $\frac{7}{16}$ ths by landlords, and $\frac{5}{16}$ ths by raiyats. Arrangements are being made to effect recoveries from the beginning of the current season 1895-96. The collections from the tenants will be made by a Sub-Deputy Collector going round from village to village and distributing extracts from the record to all persons concerned on payment of the sums due: all the tenants' payments will be recovered, and as much as possible from the landlords, at this stage; the balance due from the proprietors will be recovered with the land revenue. It is hoped that Rs. 75,000 will be recovered from the landlords and tenants before the end of March 1896.

16. The question will soon arise whether the survey-settlement, when it has completed the four districts of North Bihar, is to be extended or not into the districts of South Bihar or of the Bhagalpur Division. Sir Charles Elliott, being now on the eve of leaving the country, desires to record his opinion that it should be extended. He believes that the operations which have been conducted have to a large extent dispelled the fears and suspicions with which the work was at first regarded. The raiyats are learning to regard the security given by the record of rights as a valuable protection of their tenure. The zamindars have begun to realise that it gives them a useful lever in securing a reasonable enhancement of rent, especially where cultivation has increased. The indigo planters have always perceived the advantage they reap by obtaining accurate knowledge of the rights and position of the parties with whom they have to deal. The vague alarms as to the irruption of a great flood of litigation and as to the imposition of a heavy burden of expenditure have been to a great extent dissipated. His Honour believes that no class is now strongly opposed to a survey-settlement except those who fear loss from the decrease of law suits and the quieting of disputes about title: and he trusts that the blessings now being conveyed to the districts of North Bihar may in the course of time be extended to all Bengal.

17. The survey of the temporarily-settled estates in Orissa was nearly completed during the year ending 30th September 1894. The survey work of the year under report comprised chiefly (a) the completion of the small temporarily-settled area ($5\frac{1}{2}$ square miles) which remained over for survey and record-writing, and (b) the 2"=1 mile topographical survey (with village boundaries) of 1,013 square miles of the permanently-settled tracts, some of which are situated on the extreme south of the Orissa

ORISSA—Survey.

Division on the borders of the Madras Presidency, while others are at the northernmost point touching the district of Midnapore. The total area traversed was 959 square miles, and the 1,013 square miles topographically surveyed were exclusive of 310 square miles of water of the Chilka Lake, and an overlap of 13 square miles of the Madras Presidency which had also been surveyed, in order that the lake might be fully mapped. The following table shows the progress made in each year from the commencement of the operations in 1889-90:—

YEAR.	PURI.				CUTTACK.				BALASORE.			
	Traverse survey.	Cadastral survey.	Record-writing.	Topographical survey.	Traverse survey.	Cadastral survey.	Record-writing.	Topographical survey.	Traverse survey.	Cadastral survey.	Record-writing.	Topographical survey.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Sq. M.	Sq. M.	Sq. M.	Sq. M.	Sq. M.	Sq. M.	Sq. M.	Sq. M.	Sq. M.	Sq. M.	Sq. M.	Sq. M.
1889-90	413	358	358	...	119	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1890-91	481	364	364	...	501	331	279	...	...	...	...	...
1891-92	135	307	307	...	1,286	1,453	1,164	...	588	...	...	...
1892-93	...	...	...	...	...	485	826	...	1,145	1,084	1,069	...
1893-94	...	104	104	...	15	...	...	...	...	649	664	...
1894-95	123	...	...	175*	646	5	5	661	190	...	...	190
	1,152	1,133	1,133	175	2,567	2,274	2,274	661	1,923	1,733½	1,733½	190

* Includes 13 square miles of overlap on Madras.

Government having decided that the resettlement of the Khurda Government estate, in the district of Puri, comprising an area of 886 square miles, of which the current settlement will expire in September 1897, should be based on the existing records revised and brought up to date through the agency of the sarbarahkars, 795 sarbarahkars went through a course of instruction in schools established for the purpose during the year, under the supervision of Mr. R. C. Ewing, the officer in charge of the survey in Orissa, in—

- (1) field surveying (on plane table and by field-book);
- (2) rules for the writing of record of rights;
- (3) extraction of areas and mapping of fields.

The rewriting of the records by the trained sarbarahkars under Mr. Ewing's supervision will be carried out in the season 1895-96, and the re-assessment effected in 1896-97.

The total cost incurred under the head of survey from the beginning of the operations down to the 30th September 1891 in Orissa amounted to Rs. 2,21,102 (excluding all charges for Angul, Banki, Kanika, and Kujang), and the following table shows the amounts expended during the last four survey years:—

		TOTAL SUMS EXPENDED.					
		Traverse survey, including demarcation and stone embedding.	Cadastral survey, including maps, areas and traces with arrears.	Record-writing with statistics and arrears.	Topographical survey.	Other heads.	Total.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cuttack	1891-93	47,880	1,10,666	30,980	.....	15,286	2,13,812
	1892-93	3,794	59,427	76,567	.....	1,371	1,41,159
	1893-94	798	.....	32,568	.....	574	33,740
	1894-95	13,953	6,277	814	6,219	.....	27,263
	Total	66,425	1,76,370	1,49,929	6,219	17,031	4,16,974
Puri	1891-93	9,758	33,606	9,453	.....	13,529	66,436
	1892-93	.....	4,908	3,454	.....	776	9,228
	1893-94	.....	3,032	3,261	.....	.....	6,293
	1894-95	3,962	366	510	1,406	3,302	9,546
	Total	13,720	42,092	16,678	1,406	17,607	91,503
Balasore	1891-92	17,740	.....	.....	.....	.....	17,740
	1892-93	40,601	79,992	33,723	.....	47	1,63,363
	1893-94	842	50,527	45,096	.....	.....	96,465
	1894-95	3,823	9,991	3,920	1,767	.....	19,601
	Total	72,006	1,40,510	82,739	1,767	47	2,97,069
2" mapping for the Orissa Division for 1894-95.		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9,646
GRAND TOTAL		1,52,151	3,68,972	2,49,346	9,392	34,685	5,14,193

Excluding Rs. 6,293, which represented cost of the revision of survey of the Puri Temple lands, the total expenditure in Orissa under the head of survey amounts approximately to—

	Rs.
Incurred up to 30th September 1891 ...	2,21,102
„ from 1st October 1891 to 30th September 1895 ...	8,14,192
Total ...	10,35,294

The total area surveyed in Orissa, exclusive of the Puri Temple lands (105 square miles), being 5,036 square miles, the total cost per square mile is Rs. 205·6.

18. Mr. W. Maude was in charge of the settlement work in the Cuttack and Puri Districts with a maximum staff of 12 Assistants during the field season under him. In Cuttack 10 officers working for varying periods, which amounted in the aggregate to 61 months, attested records and recorded existing rents and status in 1,356 villages with an area of 681·38 square miles, containing 276,138 tenants and 1,184,545 plots. The average outturn for each officer *per mensem* was therefore 19,418 plots. This is a great improvement on the rate of work in the preceding season in which each officer only attested 5,921 plots per mensem. In Puri one officer did similar work in 23 villages with an area of 13·05 square miles, and containing 3,458 tenants and 11,986 plots. The following table shows the entire progress of attestation work in Cuttack and Puri from the beginning of the work:—

	WORK DONE.				WORK REMAINING ON 1ST OCTOBER 1895.		
	Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of plots.	Number of tenants.	Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of plots.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Cuttack...	Up to end of 1891-92 ...			(Not stated)	.....	.....	.....
	During 1892-93 ...	2,520	1,091	1,975,224	174,566	.....	.....
	Do. 1893-94 ...				101,548	.....	.....
	Do. 1894-95 ...	1,356	681	1,184,545	276,138	.....	.....
Total for Cuttack		3,876	1,772	3,159,769	.....	1,047	500
Puri	Up to end of 1891-92 ...	1,894	933	1,352,295	(Not stated)	.....	.....
	During 1892-93 ...	62	60	117,216	20,482	.....	.....
	Do. 1893-94 ...	1	2	3,033	530	.....	.....
	Do. 1894-95 ...	23	13	11,986	3,458	.....	.....
Total for Puri		1,980	998	1,484,533	.....	178*	91*
Total of the two districts		5,856	2,770	4,644,304	.....	1,165	591

* These figures relate to villages belonging to the Puri Temple.

During the recess months from May to September, five officers were employed in completing the records and tabulating the statistics. Mr. James Taylor was employed on settlement of fair rents during the year. Including the work of the previous year, he has settled rents in 142 villages for 13,950 tenants, whose existing rents he has raised from Rs. 36,219 to Rs. 44,885.

19. Balasore was constituted a separate settlement charge with effect from 1st November 1894, and Mr. S. L. Maddox has been in charge of the settlement of the District since that date except for the period from the 17th July to the 16th October 1895, when he was on privilege leave. Mr. Maddox had a maximum staff during the field season of ten Assistants, who attested records for 1,962 villages containing an area of 1,022 square miles, 296,818 tenants, and 1,204,215 plots. The average outturn for each officer *per mensem* was about 21,000 plots. The following table shows the progress of attestation work in this District from the beginning of the work:—

	WORK DONE.				WORK REMAINING ON 1ST OCTOBER 1895.		
	Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of plots.	Number of tenants.	Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of plots.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
During 1892-93 ...	511	128	208,642	45,931	.....	.....	.....
„ 1893-94 ...	577	324	475,833	108,435	.....	.....	.....
„ 1894-95 ...	1,962	1,022	1,204,215	296,818	.....	.....	.....
Total	3,050	1,474	1,888,690	451,184	686	236	232,846

Two Assistant Settlement Officers were retained for tabulation of statistics during the recess, but they have not furnished any consolidated returns of the statistics.

Mr. Maddox and two of his Assistants made experimental settlement of rents, on the basis of soil maps, in 20 villages, in 11 of which the results show the proposed assets to be 51 per cent. in excess of rents now paid and 84 per cent. in excess of the assets of the last settlement.

20. In both these Districts the Settlement Officers have been making experimental efforts and feeling about in a not very successful way in order to establish some principles for the settlements of fair rents and the assessment of revenue, but they have hardly as yet realised that the first essential point is to obtain a firm grasp of existing facts as to rents and rent-rates. Although two Deputy Collectors were engaged on the work in Balasore, the prescribed table (such as is given in paragraph 14 above) has not been submitted for Balasore; this is perhaps due to the Settlement Officer's absence on leave. In Cuttack the figures for nearly 300,000 tenancies have been tabulated, but it has been done with excessive elaboration and such differentiation of classes and sub-classes and sub-sub-classes which need not be differentiated, that it is difficult to draw any conclusion from it. A Settlement Officer must learn that he cannot afford to concentrate his whole attention on the one branch of his work which he has in hand: he must look forward and foresee the end and prepare, as he goes along, the data which will be required to accomplish, the whole of the business he has in hand.

21. The cost incurred on settlement in all the three Districts during the year ending 30th September, 1895, amounted to Rs. 1,93,392, of which Rs. 1,10,185 were for Cuttack and Puri, and Rs. 83,207 for Balasore. The amount first mentioned, distributed over 1,716 square miles, the total area attested in the three districts, gives a cost rate of about Rs. 113 per square mile, or about 2 annas 10 pies per acre against $6\frac{1}{2}$ annas, the rate per acre arrived at in the previous year. The total cost of the settlement operations in Orissa down to the end of the year is reported to be Rs. 8,01,712, and the expenditure under the head of survey being Rs. 10,35,294, the total amount expended on the survey and settlement operations in Orissa down to 30th September 1895 amounts to Rs. 18,37,006.

22. The only survey work remaining to be done in Chittagong was the survey of a small area of thatching-grass lands and the demarcation of the Hill Tract boundary; of the latter work 49 miles still remain to be surveyed. The number of boundary disputes disposed of during the year was 233. The settlement operations were conducted by Mr. C. G. H. Allen, and, after he went on furlough, by Mr. Stevenson-Moore, assisted by a staff consisting, during the greater part of the year, of five Assistant Settlement Officers. The progress in "mahal milan," or adjustment of lands of estates and villages, was completed in 240 villages, leaving 276 villages still in hand. There was a marked improvement in the progress of settlement of fair rents; for 80,997 tenancies in 356 villages rents were settled in the year, against 13,463 in the previous year. The total number of villages in the District is now stated to be 1,036 and of noabad tenants 212,655, but these figures are liable to correction; there are several discrepancies which are noticed in the Chittagong report, and it is feared that accuracy has not yet been attained in this District in the compilation of settlement statistics. The number of tenants whose rents remained to be settled at the end of the year was 107,252 distributed in 591 villages, and this work can hardly be quite finished in 1895-96, as hoped for in the Resolution on the report for the year 1893-94. The results of the settlement of fair rents have been, in the words of the Director of Land Records, that "rents in the aggregate payable by tenants of all degrees have been raised from Rs. 4,71,326 to Rs. 6,18,418; and revenue payable directly to Government has been raised from Rs. 2,45,617 to Rs. 3,56,415, or 45 per cent. The increase of revenue has varied in the different circles, from 12 per cent. in Kutubdia, where rents were settled only 10 years ago (and where presumably rates have not been increased and only excess lands have been assessed), to 94 per cent. in Satkania and 196 per cent. in Sangu. In Satkania rents were previously much too low, the Settlement Officer says. He has a discretion to reduce enhancements which may appear to him to have been excessive or too suddenly made. In Sangu waste lands have been broken up." Only two appeals were presented to the Special Judge against fair-rent decisions. One only was decided, and against the appellant, during the year.

The Board remark rightly that this figure, Rs. 6,18,418, is made up by adding together the rents and sub-rents which many classes of tenants pay to each other; it is not the rent issuing out of the land, nor can the rent-rate paid on the land be calculated from it. This information is given in the statement attached to the Settlement Officer's report which shows the ruling rate, that paid by settled raiyats, to be Rs. 4-9-6 per acre. The statistics given in last year's report, which led to the belief that settled raiyats pay more than Rs. 6 per acre, appear to have been incorrect.

23. The following table shows the progress of work in this District in its most important details up to the end of the year 1894-95:—

	RECORD-WRITING.		ATTESTATION.				MAHAL MILAN.	SETTLEMENT OF FAIR RENTS.			
	Khasra-writing in the field; number of villages.	Khasra-writing and completion of records in office; number of villages.	Villages.	Square miles.	Tenants.	Plots.	Number of villages.	Number of tenants.	Former rental.	New rental.	Percentage of increase.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Up to end of 1892-93 ...	*1,033	*1,033	914	1,544.57	687,076	2,336,283	143	11,801†	.....	.....	.....
During 1893-94 ...	....	.....	416	283.84	72,036	319,609	377	13,463†	.....	.....	.....
.. 1894-95 ...	3	3	3	19.25	1,000	4,333	240	80,997	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	1,036	1,036	1,033	1,847.66	7,60,112	2,710,230	760	106,351	471,236	618,418	31.23

	CASE-WORK, EXCLUDING CASES UNDER SECTION 104 OF THE BENGAL TENANCY ACT.						Number of villages of which the draft records were published.	Number of villages of which the records were finally published.	Cost of settlement.
	Boundary disputes.		Objections under section 105.		Disputes under section 106.				
	Total instituted.	Total disposed of.	Total instituted.	Total disposed of.	Total instituted.	Total disposed of.			
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Up to end of 1892-93 ...	2,575	2,418	87,759	77,635	3,634	3,533	Permanently-settled estates in 312 vil- lages. Noabad taluks in 77 villages. Permanently-settled estates in 273 vil- lages. Noabad taluks in 230 villages.	Permanently-settled estates in 75 villages. Noabad taluks in 49 villages. Permanently-settled estates in 304 vil- lages. Noabad taluks in 191 villages.	Rs. 3,84,055
During 1893-94 ...	240	285	2,541	1,903	76	61			1,37,693
1894-95 ...	.....	233	4,456	4,559	32	34			1,40,407
Total ...	2,815	2,936	94,756	84,097	3,742	3,628	Permanently-settled estates in 585 villages. Noabad taluks in 357 villages.	Permanently-settled estates in 379 villages. Noabad taluks in 239 villages.	Total ... <u>6,63,155</u>

* The corresponding number given in the present report is 1,033.

† The total number of tenants whose rents were settled up to 1893-94 is shown in the present report to be 24,406.

24. The survey of the 397 villages of the Government estate in Palamau was begun in August 1893. The traverse survey of the whole area, with the exception of one village, Palamau Government estate. and part of the cadastral work, had been completed before November 1894. During the period under review, the cadastral survey and record-writing of 181 villages, covering an area of 161.75 square miles, and containing 66,352 fields, were carried out by a professional party under Mr. Berkeley at a cost of Rs. 24,671. The attestation of the records of 33 villages, with an area of 21.35 square miles, had been carried out in the previous year. During the year under review, the attestation of the remaining villages, 364 in number, with an area of 260.93 square miles, was completed. The total number of tenancies has been ascertained to be 13,133. Settled and occupancy raiyats hold 7,184 tenancies, or 54.7 per cent. of the whole number; non-occupancy raiyats are in

possession of 5,579, or 42·4 per cent.; rent-free-holders and tenure-holders occupy 255 and 115 respectively. The average rate of rent per acre paid by occupancy raiyats is 14 annas 3 pies. The cost of settlement operations amounted to Rs. 15,840-14-10. The Settlement Officer proposes to raise the existing revenue of the estate from Rs. 40,842 to Rs. 79,899, or by 95 per cent., the extension of cultivation since the last settlement having amounted to 131 per cent. The report containing his proposals has not yet reached Government.

25. The operations in the Darjeeling District comprise 819 jotes, covering an area of about 196 square miles, and 33 grants, covering an area of about 35 square miles, of which by far the greater portion is under tea. With regard to the grants, it is only necessary to make a boundary survey and a block survey of the interior, such as is commonly made in the Western Duars, to ascertain the area brought under cultivation. The survey and record-writing of 210 square miles were finished, leaving a small portion of the "grant" land to be completed in the current year. An Assistant Settlement Officer supervised the record-writing. Attestation and assessment will be carried out this year.

26. The settlement of the Kolhan Government estate in Singhbhum, which was made for 30 years, will expire on 31st March 1897, and measures were begun in 1894 for its resettlement. The work is placed under Mr. Craven, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, who has had much experience among the Sonthals, a race not dissimilar to the Kols, and not under the Director of Land Records. But a traverse survey has been run through the District (the forest area excepted) and skeleton maps prepared by the professional department, on which the field survey is based. The estate is said to cover an area of about 1,423 square miles, exclusive of forest reserves, and to contain 796 villages. The traverse survey of 1,175 square miles was completed during the year at a cost of Rs. 35,954.

The settlement not being under the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, no mention is made of it in his Report. It will be convenient if, as in the case of the Sonthal Parganas settlement, he embody in his future reports a short paragraph, giving the history of the work for the year. Measurement has been completed and records prepared in 182 villages, covering an area of 79,111 acres of cultivated and 34,356 acres of uncultivated land. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 28,274 up to the end of September 1895.

Mr. Craven has drawn up a report containing his proposals for assesment, and orders have recently been issued by Government.

27. The survey of the estates of His Highness the Maharaja of Hill Tippera in Tippera and Noakhali Districts, and the initial record-writing, were completed before the commencement of November 1894. Attestation was taken in hand in the middle of November 1894, and the work of the year consisted of attesting 327 villages with 29,119 tenants and 132,046 plots, covering 89 square miles.

Mr. J. G. Cumming, c.s., took charge of this settlement in October 1894, and had two Assistant Settlement Officers under him during the field season.

The average outturn of work per officer was 9,196 plots a month, which falls very far short of the estimated outturn of 20,000. Briefly, the causes which have brought about this result and have rendered the task of making a record of rights more difficult in Tippera than in any other part of these provinces have been the intricate system of taluks, the large number of disputes, and the obstructive attitude of the tenants. Applications for the settlement of fair rents were filed in 90 villages during the year under report and in 12 during the previous year. Sixteen cases in five villages affecting 177 tenants were disposed of during the year. The publication of draft records was made in five villages during the year; no final publication has taken place.

Statistics of rent and status have been tabulated for 29,944 tenancies (exclusive of under-raiyats' holdings), with the result that 25,555 tenancies, or 85·3 per cent., are found to have been held by settled and occupancy raiyats paying an average rent of Rs. 3-8-2 an acre, calculated on the cultivated and uncultivated area. The cost incurred on settlement during the year was Rs. 33,268, and from the beginning Rs. 68,073.

28. The traverse and cadastral survey of the Tikari estate had been well advanced in the previous year and, during 1894-95 the traverse work covered an area of 46.03 square miles and 65 scattered villages, and the cadastral work, including the revision of certain villages previously surveyed by the Irrigation Department, 18.09 square miles and 45 villages; some of the villages were situated in Gaya and some in Patna District. The record-writing was carried out for 69 square miles and 104 villages. The work of the professional party in the Raj estate, except the Belkhara mahal, was completed during the year.

Over three-fifths of the attestation work was carried out during the year under review. Records were attested for an area of 317.73 square miles, containing 441 villages, 27,612 tenants, and 388,837 plots. The work was done at the rate of 18,500 plots a month for each officer employed. Publication of the draft records went on *pari passu* with attestation, as few applications for settlement of fair rents were filed, and the draft records of 440 villages were published out of the 441, of which the records were attested.

Statistics have been tabulated for 27,612 tenancies; 22,655, or nearly 81 per cent., are held by settled or occupancy raiyats; 2,097, or 7 per cent., by rent-free holders; 1,137, or 4 per cent., by non-occupancy raiyats. Nearly three fourths of the rent-paying area is held on produce rents, and the rate of cash rents for settled and occupancy raiyats is Rs. 4-7-3 an acre.

The total expenditure of the Survey Department during the year has amounted to Rs. 28,761, and the work of the Settlement Officer has cost Rs. 33,104 including the cost of supervision of record-writing in the Government estates). It is estimated that the whole cost of the operations, settlement and survey, will amount roughly to 7 annas 6 pie an acre.

29. The following table shows the progress of the operations and the cost incurred in the smaller surveys and settlements dealt with by the Directors of Surveys and Land Records:—

ESTATES.	Number of villages.	Area in square miles.	SURVEY.		SETTLEMENT.					Total cost of survey and settlement to end of the year.
			Traverse— During 1894-95.	Cadastral— During 1894-95.	Attestation : number of villages—		Settlement of fair rents to end of the year.			
					During 1894-95.	To end of 1894-95.	Number of tenants.	Former rental.	New rental.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<i>Government estates.</i>			SQ. M.	SQ. M.				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
(1) Patnaipur estates in Midnapore	96	54.6	.....	.....	48	96	.....	.....	.....	29,963
(2) Jaipur estates, in Bogra	157	55.8	.....	.....	11	11	.....	.....	.....	22,260
(3) Backergunge estates	32	64.02	.....	53.48	3	4	936	14,156	20,224	21,164
(4) Gaya estates	109	89	89	89	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,351
(5) Shahabad estates	20	18.75	.....	9.40	12	20	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	414	282.17	89	151.88	74	131	936	14,150	20,224	74,738
<i>Private estates.</i>										
(1) Chaurasi estates in 24-Paraganas.	53	33	.....	33	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9,618
(2) Ganga Mandal in Tippera	3	1.16	.....	.....	3	3	.....	.....	.....	622
(3) Palpara in Tippera	11	3.46	.....	.....	11	11	.....	.....	.....	1,654
(4) Tantibunia in Khulna	8	20	20	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,149
(5) Chiknibandi in Backergunge	7	5.45	.....	5.45	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,385
Total	82	63.07	20	58.45	14	14	.....	.....	.....	17,428
<i>Wards' estates.</i>										
(1) Burdwan Raj khas mahals in Burdwan, Hooghly, and Bankura.	176	129.3	.....	10.03	35	152	4,152	37,468	39,493	(b).....
(2) Dakshin Shahbazar in Backergunge.	47	146.58	.....	.....	.....	47	7,839	.....	.....	96,169
(3) Srirampu in Backergunge	9	9.13	.....	33	7	9	1,481	20,050	20,050	6,762
Total	232	285.01	.....	10.36	42	208	13,472	57,518	59,543	1,02,931
GRAND TOTAL	728	630.25	109	220.89	130	353	14,408	71,674	79,767	1,95,097

(a) Only Rs. 746 have been shown as expended by the Survey Department. The rest of the survey expenditure has not been reported.

30. The final publication of the khatians and record of rights of the villages in parganas Teur, Sultanabad, and Ambar, in the Sonthal Parganas, which had been measured and settled during the year ending 30th September 1894, was completed during the month of October 1894. No fresh settlements of private estates in the Sonthal Parganas were taken up during the year.

31. Besides the question mentioned in paragraph 11 above as to the power of a Settlement Officer to deal with disputes between landlords *inter se* and tenants *inter se*, the following practical difficulties in the working of the Tenancy Act are mentioned by Mr. Macpherson in his Report and by the Board in their covering letter:—

- (1) How far the Settlement Officer is bound to act on a compromise agreed to by both parties, or whether he should go behind the written compromise ;
- (2) What power a Settlement Officer or a Special Judge has to review and modify his own decisions, either at the petition of an aggrieved party or of his own motion ;
- (3) What is the meaning of the term "prevailing rate?"

On these points the Lieutenant-Governor agrees with what the Board has said or proposes to do. In the first case, the decision of the High Court, in the case of the Bettiah Raj *versus* Palti Koeri and others, lays down a ruling which disposes of the doubts raised, and which should be followed. In the second case, three Special Judges have held that the power of revision exists, and it should be exercised until these decisions are upset by higher authority—an eventuality which need not be anticipated. As to the third point, the Board's further reference to the law officers may be awaited, but His Honour has elsewhere intimated his opinion that the help of the Legislature will have to be called in to cut this knot. The Lieutenant-Governor also agrees with the remarks made by the Board (paragraph 8) on Mr. Lyon's aspiration after freedom from the trammels of Civil Code Procedure in dealing with disputes under section 106. Mr. Lyon is mistaken in thinking that no such suits are tried in Chittagong. On the contrary, the table on page xxxi of the Report shows that 1,146 suits under this section were disposed of there in the past year, and the Settlement Officer has informed the Lieutenant-Governor that Chapter VI of the new rules under the Tenancy Act has greatly simplified the procedure and facilitated progress in disposing of these cases.

32. In Chapter V of his Report the Director of Land Records has dealt with the subject of the maintenance of settlement records. Act III (B.C.) of 1895 has now been passed; it provides for the maintenance of records of rights in land in surveyed areas, to which it may be extended, by requiring all classes of privileged tenants to register all mutations of tenant-rights, whether due to succession or transfer. The registration of mutations of the rights of non-occupancy raiyats and of under-raiyats is left optional. Since the conclusion of the year, rules for the introduction and working of the Act have been published for criticism, and have recently been issued. Also measures have been taken for the establishment of offices at Hajipur in Muzaffarpur and at Bettiah in Champaran for the registration of mutations. Apart from the Act, attempts have been made in large estates belonging to Government or under the Court of Wards to improve the system of record of mutations of tenancies. Half-yearly returns of mutations of tenant-right and settlements of abandoned holdings or waste lands on large estates belonging to Government or under the Court of Wards have been required, and will result, it is hoped, in more efficient maintenance of the rent-rolls. In Khurda maps and copies of khasras have been corrected by the sarbarakars in about 867 of the 1,378 villages. In the Angul Government estates 30 out of the 417 sarbarakars have submitted returns. For the Western Duars rules have been passed, prescribing the maintenance of mutation registers, which give in abstract the principal facts for each jotedar's or chukanidar's tenancy as recorded in the settlement. The working of these rules should be carefully watched.

33. The Lieutenant-Governor has on previous occasions cordially acknowledged the excellent work done by Mr. W. C. Macpherson and Colonel J. E. Sandeman in the

Conclusion.

management of their Departments, and has commended their enthusiasm and energy in the performance of their duties. He has again to thank them for their eminently successful labours during the past year, and especially to record his obligations to Mr. Macpherson for the success with which he has grappled with the difficulties which necessarily accompany the working of a new law for the first time on so large a scale. Both the Directors have furnished lists of their subordinates who have rendered good service during the year, and Sir Charles Elliott desires that an expression of his high appreciation may be communicated to Captain R. T. Crichton of the Survey Department and to the following officers of the Settlement Department:—

<i>Settlement Officers.</i>	<i>Assistant Settlement Officers.</i>
Mr. C. G. H. Allen.	Mr. R. Nathan, I.C.S.
„ E. G. Colvin.	„ M. F. Gauntlett, I.C.S.
„ J. G. Cumming.	„ W. Thomson, I.C.S.
„ P. C. Lyon.	„ J. Taylor.
„ S. L. Maddox.	Munshi Nundjee.
„ C. J. Stevenson-Moore.	Maulavi Ghulam Ghous.
Babu Peari Mohun Basu.	Babu Annada Charan Gupta.

The names of the other Assistant Settlement Officers specially mentioned by the Director in paragraphs 120-121 of his Report will be noted in the Appointment Department.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

C. E. BUCKLAND,
Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

No. 5422.

COPY forwarded to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Land Revenue Department, for the information of the Board, with reference to his letter No. 1244A., dated the 6th December 1895, and for communication to the Director of Land Records, the Superintendent of Settlement-Surveys, all Commissioners of Divisions, District Officers, and Settlement Officers.

No. 5423.

COPY forwarded to the Deputy Surveyor-General, in charge Revenue Branch, Survey of India, for information.

No. 5424.

COPY, with a copy of the Report of the Director of Land Records, forwarded to the Appointment Department of this Government for information, with special reference to paragraph 32 above.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

C. E. BUCKLAND,
Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

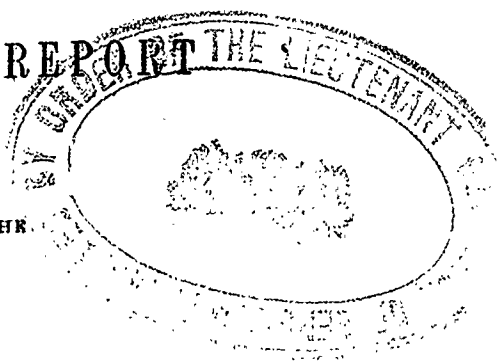
CALCUTTA,

The 14th December 1895.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE



DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND
RECORDS, BENGAL,

ON

SETTLEMENTS AND LAND RECORDS

FOR

The year ending 30th September 1896.

Calcutta:

BENGAL SECRETARIAT PRESS.

1896.

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REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND
RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE, BENGAL, ON SETTLEMENTS
AND LAND RECORDS FOR THE YEAR FROM 1st OCTOBER
1895 TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 1896.

No. 2949S.

FROM P. C. LYON, Esq., c.s.,

*Offg. Director of the Department of Land Records and
Agriculture, Bengal,*

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF REVENUE, L. P.

Dated Calcutta, the 24th November, 1896.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit my Report on Settlements and Land Records under the control of the Director of Land Records for the year ending 30th September 1896. This is the sixth annual report submitted for the survey and settlement year, but the summary of progress made in the financial year 1895-96, which was forwarded to the Board with my letter, No. 1889S, dated the 25th July, 1896, was the eleventh annual report submitted by this Department for the financial and administrative year. In the arrangement of the report I have carefully followed the plan adopted by Mr. Macpherson in his report for the year 1894-95.

CHAPTER I.

GENERAL SUMMARY AND GENERAL REMARKS.

2. The following introductory statement will show the different areas in which settlement operations are in progress under the control of the Director of Land Records and Agriculture. My report will be confined to those operations, and I do not propose to deal with any of the settlements which are being conducted under the direct supervision of the Board of Revenue. The

statement also gives figures of the progress made under each of the principal heads of settlement work during the past year:—

Settlements under the control of the Director of Land Records in the year, 1st October 1895 to 30th September 1896, and progress made.

NAME OF SETTLEMENT.	Area in square miles under settle- ment of reve- nue or record of rights.	Area in square miles for which initial records were written (i.e., khana- puri com- pleted) during 1895-96.	Area in square miles for which records were attested and existing rents recorded in 1895-96.	Number of tenants for whom rents were settled in 1895-96.	Number of villages for which final records were published in 1895-96.	Total expenditure of the Settle- ment Depart- ment during the year 1895-96.	REMARKS.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
TEMPORARILY-SETTLED TRACTS AND GOVERN- MENT ESTATES.								
<i>Major Settlements.</i>								
Orissa...	Cuttack—all temporarily-settled and 5 permanently-settled estates.	2273'8	Nil	495'29	59,199	Nil	3,09,962	
	Balasore—temporarily-settled estates	1733'11	Nil	235'84	97,912			
	Puri—temporarily-settled estates and Ekraja lands.	1089'0	Nil	292'84	20,077			
	Khurda—Government estates...	913'00	913'00	18'01	Nil			
Chittagong	1910'91	Nil	Nil	71,067	252	1,48,293		
Palamau	294'0	39	39	12,950	Nil	15,980		
Darjeeling Terai	230'37	Nil	224'93	Nil	Nil	9,662		
<i>Minor Settlements.</i>								
Pataspur estates in Midnapore	54'70	Nil	Nil	10,124	Nil	8,87	(a) Khanapuri was re- done in 32'72 square miles.	
Jaipur estates in Bogra	55'50	... (a)	28'61	Nil	Nil	9,620		
Backergunge Government estates	67'69	8'67	51'08	1,071	1	(b) 12,956	(b) This includes survey cost.	
Gaya Government estates	102'00	14'00	82'40	2,853	Nil	(c) 1,237	(c) Included in Tikari and Balkhara.	
Shahabad Government estates	18'75	61	10'55	Nil	Nil			
Total ...	8741'55	931'67	1440'16	275,253	253	5,16,576		
PRIVATE ESTATES.								
<i>Major Operations.</i>								
North Bihar ... {	Muzaffarpur	3054'09	445'09	1319'43	3,862	1,161	1,80,057	(d) This includes survey cost.
	Champanan	3265'00	1185'00	1182'00	34,633	372	1,27,102	
	Saran	2622'00	668'00	Nil	21,729	11	63,135	
Chakla Roshnabad	555'63	Nil	216'14	1,884	97	7,66,082		
<i>Minor Operations.</i>								
Chaurasi in the 24-Parganas	33'00	Nil	33'00	2,408	Nil	5,109	(d) This includes survey cost.	
Tantibunla in Khulna	19'95	Nil	19'95	156	8	4,141		
Chiknikandi and Pankhali Haridebpur	9'71	4'28	5'43	Nil	Nil	(d) 2,407		
Palpara	3'19	Nil	Nil	231	11	991		
Gangamandal	1'16	Nil	Nil	118		407	(e) Cost included in Muzaffarpur.	
Taluka Lahiri	16'23	16'23	Nil	Nil	Nil	...		
Total ...	9579'98	2318'60	2755'95	65,021	1,661	4,42,441		
WARDS' ESTATES.								
Burdwan Raj {	Burdwan	76'00	Nil	3'82	60	30	10,575	
	khas mahals {	Heoghly	13'00					Nil
	Bankura	41'00	Nil					
Dakhin Shahbazpur in Backergunge	148'58	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1,351		
Srirampur in ditto	9'13	Nil	Nil	Nil	5	2,078		
Tikari and Balkhara in Gaya	481'91	85'50	70'17	69	478	24,852		
Narhan estate in Monghyr	53'75	53'75	Nil	Nil	Nil	2,144		
Total ...	621'37	139'25	73'59	129	503	41,000		
GRAND TOTAL ...	19142'90	3389'52	4269'70	340,403	2,417	10,00,017		

3. The progress shown in the above statement may be very briefly summarised as follows:—

In Orissa we have completed attestation in all areas except the Government estate of Khurda, and in a few villages in Cuttack and the *ekraja* lands in Puri, and are now proceeding to settle rents preparatory to assessing the new revenue. It is hoped that the operations will be brought to a close in the course of the year 1899. In Khurda we have revised the maps, and rewritten the records. We now have to attest the records and settle rents. This should be completed before the close of the field season of 1897-98.

The Chittagong operations are drawing to a close, and all work in the field should be completed in the current year. In Palamau, the Darjeeling Terai, and Pataspur our work is being gradually wound up.

In the Jaipur estates of Bogra rents have yet to be settled.

In Backergunge good progress has been made.

In Gaya the bulk of the work has been completed, and the operations should terminate with the current year.

In Shahabad we have yet to settle rents.

Substantial work has been done in North Bihar. In Muzaffarpur and Champaran survey and initial record-writing have been completed, and attestation will end in the current field season. In Saran satisfactory progress has been made, and we are about to commence our operations in Darbhanga.

The work of attestation and completion of the records of the Chakla Roshnabad estates in Tippera is progressing in the face of many difficulties.

The operations in the Chaurasi (24-Parganas), Tantibunia (Khulna), Palpara (Tippera), and Gangamandal (Tippera) estates will be shortly at an end, and the final reports for them will be submitted in the course of the current year.

Settlement operations in the Burdwan Raj Khas Mahals, the Dakhin Shahbazpur estate, and the Srirampur estate have been concluded, and all work in the Tikari ward's estate in Gaya should come to a close in the current year.

The survey and initial record-writing in the Narhan ward's estate have been carried out, and the records should be completed within the next 12 months.

The progress made in each of the above settlements during the year will be examined in detail in the following chapters.

4. There was an increase in the number of Settlement and Assistant Settlement Officers employed during the year, as compared with those employed in 1894-95, and there will be a further increase in the current year, owing to the demands made by our work in Orissa, but in future years we may expect a rapid decrease in the number of officers detailed from general duty for settlement work.

On the 1st January, when field work was in full swing throughout Bengal, 14 Settlement Officers and 83 Assistant Settlement Officers were employed on the settlements which have been placed under the control of this Department.

5. Completion reports for the Kanika wards' estate in Cuttack, the Jaldi, Ramu, Chakaria, and Kutubdia circles in Chittagong, and the Government estates char Romesh and char Bairagya in Backergunge were submitted to the Board in the course of the year. The report for Dakhin Shahbazpur was received during the year from the Settlement Officer, but has not yet been submitted to the Board, and that for the Burdwan Raj khas mahals was received a few days after the close of the year.

6. Arrangements have been made in the course of the year for the survey of five *char* estates in Noakhali by professional agency, and for their settlement under the supervision of this Department.

GENERAL REMARKS ON SETTLEMENT QUESTIONS DEALT WITH DURING THE YEAR.

7. It would be impossible for me to treat adequately in the pages of this report the many and varied questions that have arisen in the course of the year in connection with the settlement operations in this Province, and I propose, therefore, to confine my remarks under the above heading to a brief indication of the more important matters that have been discussed in this Department in the course of the year.

8. In consequence of the constant complaints received from Settlement Officers and others as to the difficulties found in working those provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Act which apply to settlement operations, Sir Charles Elliott drew up, before leaving India, a minute on the subject, suggesting certain reforms in procedure which would require a modification of the

law. Mr. Macpherson subsequently emphasised the difficulties under which work was being done in a letter to Government, No. 481S., dated 14th February 1896, in which he proposed that we should return to the provisions of Act VIII (B.C.) of 1879 for the purposes of the settlement of Orissa. The whole subject was taken up at a Conference summoned by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at Belvedere on February 16th and 21st, 1896, at which the Members of the Board of Revenue, with the Secretary to the Board, the Revenue Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Mr. Macpherson, Mr. Maude, and myself were present. In accordance with the results of the discussions at that Conference, a note was subsequently submitted by me, in which I endeavoured to summarise the difficulties felt by the officers who were entrusted with the conduct of settlement operations in Bengal, and the Board of Revenue submitted a draft Bill to amend the settlement provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Act. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor then prepared a minute dealing with the whole question, and forwarded it to the Government of India with proposals for legislation. The orders of the Government of India, approving of legislation, subject to the sanction of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, and a copy of the Despatch in which that sanction has been solicited, have been received since the close of the year.

9. At the Conference alluded to above the advisability of reducing the pace at which the work was being carried out in North Bihar, in view of the heavy demands for officers that would be made by the Orissa settlement during the next two years, and to lessen the pressure on the officers already employed, was also discussed, with the result that it was determined to employ two survey parties in the place of four in future years in North Bihar, and thus to reduce the outturn of survey and initial record-writing each year from 2,000 square miles to 1,000.

10. There was further correspondence during the year as to the best system on which to arrange the village records, as to the proper naming of villages, and as to the definition of the word "village" given in the Bengal Tenancy Act. It has been determined to group all villages by thanas in North Bihar, and the existing orders as to the proper record of the local name of each village have been emphasised. The question of the modification of the legal definition of a village has not yet been disposed of.

11. The important question of the evidence necessary to prove a rise in the price of food-grains, for the purpose of founding on it an enhancement of rents, was discussed at some length, with special reference to the settlement of rents in Orissa. The Board issued general instructions as to the nature of the evidence to be required in each case, and section 39 of the Tenancy Act was extended to Orissa. A great deal of most useful information as to prices at the time of the last settlement of that Division has since been collected for us by the local officers.

12. In May 1895 Mr. Macpherson issued a circular to all Settlement Officers, asking for general information as to rents, with a view to ascertaining whether there were any grounds, in the rents recorded in the course of our more important operations, for asking the permission of Government to proceed to settle all rents under section 112 of the Bengal Tenancy Act. The general opinion of the officers consulted was that it was unnecessary to apply to Government for such powers, and no further action has accordingly been taken in the matter.

13. In August 1895 Mr. Macpherson consulted his Settlement Officers on the subject of the record of *abwabs* in our settlement papers, with special reference to the difficulties found in ascertaining what part of a rent, shown as a consolidated rent in the landlord's rent-roll, and regularly paid as rent by the tenant, was really composed of sums levied originally as *abwabs*, which should not be recorded under Rule 17, Chapter VI of the Government Rules under the Tenancy Act. The replies of the Settlement Officers were summarised in Mr. Macpherson's letter to the Board, No. 3602S., dated 20th December 1895, and the Board referred the matter to Government, with a recommendation as to the orders

to be issued. The Board's proposals were approved by Government, and in Board's circular No. 10 of February 1896 instructions were issued to the general effect that where there was no dispute between landlord and tenant, it was unnecessary for the Revenue Officer to try and disentangle *abwabs* from the rent, but that in cases of dispute careful enquiries were to be made.

14. In a fair-rent case from Bettiah, Maharani Siu Ratan Koer and others *versus* Sobh Gond and others, in which an appeal was preferred to the High Court on technical grounds, a judgment was delivered in which the right of the Revenue Officer to scrutinise compromises filed before him, and to ascertain and determine the real meaning of them, was clearly enunciated. This judgment has considerably strengthened the hands of those Revenue Officers who have had to deal with applications for the enhancement of rents, in the course of the trial of which a strong landlord-plaintiff has induced raiyat-defendants to admit his claims. In some of these cases the Revenue Officers have had to interfere to protect the tenant, and their right to interpose and settle only such rents as appear to them to be fair and equitable is now, I think, generally recognised throughout the areas under settlement.

In the case of Upadhyay Thakur *versus* Punda Singh, in which a Full Bench decision was delivered on the 27th April 1896, the Hon'ble Judges determined that as no proceedings under Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act could be termed 'suits,' the applications in appeal to the Special Judge under that chapter should bear court-fees of 8 annas each only. The question whether this judgment in any way affects the fees to be paid on the original petitions and applications under the same chapter is still under the consideration of Government, and the important issue as to whether the declaration that our proceedings are not 'suits' will not destroy all the power of our decisions to bar future litigation on the same subjects, under section 13 of the Civil Procedure Code, will doubtless be fully discussed in the course of the proposed legislation to amend the Bengal Tenancy Act.

15. In accordance with the orders of Government, statistics collected by the settlement staff in various parts of the Province on the subject of the transfer of proprietary and tenant rights were submitted by me to the Board in letter No. 1923S., dated 31st July 1896.

The figures were imperfect in many respects, but those from North Bihar were fairly complete, and seemed to justify a conclusion that, except in Champaran, where the right of transfer of tenant rights was abused to a considerable extent, the land was not on the whole passing to any appreciable extent out of the hands of the real cultivators. But further enquiries are being made, and additional statistics are being collected which will give us better grounds for judging of the actual tendency of the transfers reported.

16. The Department was consulted by Government in the course of the year on the subject of the new Partition Bill which has been introduced into the local Council. The assistance of several Settlement Officers was solicited, and their reports, together with my recommendations, were submitted to the Board with my letter No. 2622S., dated 9th November 1896. The proposal to introduce a survey and record of rights into the procedure for the partitioning of estates met with the unanimous approval of the officers consulted by me.

17. The advisability of preparing a record of rights under Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act for fluctuating *diara* lands in North Bihar was fully discussed in the course of the year, and the decision arrived at by Government was that it would be sufficient to make a survey of such lands, and that the preparation of a record of rights for them was not worth the labour and the expense involved.

18. The new rules sanctioned by the Secretary of State for India, regulating the special allowances to be made to officers deputed to settlement work, came into force in the course of the year. The Settlement and Assistant Settlement Officers who had been gazetted to their appointments before the rules took effect, and were allowed to choose whether they would work under the new or the old rules, unanimously expressed their preference

for the latter, being of opinion that the new rules would seriously reduce their emoluments.

19. In paragraph 16 of the Resolution No. 5421, dated 14th December 1895, Sir Charles Elliott placed on record his opinion that the survey and settlement operations in progress in North Bihar should be extended to South Bihar and the neighbouring Division of Bhagalpur. The opinion of local

Extension of the cadastral survey operations to South Bihar and Bhagalpur.

officers, of European and native zamindars, and other native gentlemen, and of various Associations, was sought for on the subject of this proposal, and the replies and reports received were forwarded to the Board with my letter No. 2596S., dated 6th November 1896. The general opinion of the officers and other gentlemen consulted was against the immediate extension of the work; and its utility in the districts south of the Ganges, where much land is held on produce rents, and where the relations of landlords with their tenants are on the whole more satisfactory than in North Behar, was called in question by several. The recommendation made by this Department was that the proceedings should not at present be extended beyond that portion of the district of Monghyr which lies north of the Ganges.

20. The following are among the more important items of departmental work done during the year:—

Miscellaneous.

The attestation, khanapuri, and khanapuri inspection rules for Bihar were revised and altered in various ways.

Rules were framed for the recovery of costs in Behar.

Rules were framed for the settlement of rents in Orissa.

Arrangements were made for the supply of medicines to camps, especially to those working in malarious tracts.

Some progress was made in the publication and issue of working copies of the forms prescribed in the new Survey and Settlement Manual.

Experiments were made with specimens of new cloths for tracing, and with new processes for the reproduction of maps. New covers were prepared for records during work in the field, and the binding adopted for the settlement records in Muzaffarpur was suggested for adoption in other settlements as well.

CHAPTER II.

TEMPORARILY-SETTLED TRACTS AND GOVERNMENT ESTATES.

Major Settlements.

ORISSA.

21. At the commencement of the year under report the settlement operations in Balasore were held as a distinct charge from those in Cuttack and Puri, Mr. W. Maude being Settlement Officer in the latter districts, and Mr. S. L. Maddox, Settlement Officer in Balasore. On Mr. Maude's leaving on furlough on the 18th February, Mr. W. B. Thomson was appointed temporarily to act for him, but early in March it was decided to appoint Mr. Maddox Settlement Officer of the whole of Orissa, and to give him three members of the Imperial Civil Service as his Assistants in charge of the three districts of the Division. Under these arrangements Mr. Thomson became Assistant Settlement Officer in charge of Balasore, and Mr. J. E. Webster, Assistant Settlement Officer in charge of Cuttack, while Mr. D. H. Kingsford acted as Assistant Settlement Officer in charge of Puri until such time as Mr. H. McPherson, who was nominated for this work 12 months ago, could be spared to rejoin the Settlement Department. (This was not, however, found possible until after the close of the year.) The control of all the settlement operations in Orissa rests now accordingly

in Mr. Maddox's hands, and he has submitted a single report dealing with them, printed as Appendix II to this report, so that it will be more convenient to deal with all these operations together than to treat of each district separately. I may note that, in consideration of the very onerous and important duties that have devolved on Mr. Maddox, I requested him to submit only a brief summary of the year's work, together with certain statistical statements, and not to trouble himself to recapitulate the figures and facts that have already been reported to Government in the course of the lengthy correspondence on the subject of these operations which has been carried on throughout the year. And as the important details of the work have already been discussed elsewhere, I shall myself endeavour to avoid repetition in my own remarks on the work that has been done.

22. The programme for the past year in Orissa included—

- (1) The revision of the maps and records of the Khurda settlement of 1875-76.
- (2) The settlement of 64 boundary disputes pending from 1894-95, and of 205 such disputes instituted during the year.
- (3) The attestation of—
 - (i) 1,047 villages, covering 500 square miles, and containing 1,192,871 plots, in Cuttack;
 - (ii) 686 villages, covering 235·84 square miles, and containing 232,765 plots, in Balasore;
 - (iii) 118 villages, covering 90·95 square miles, and containing 82,826 plots, in the *ekrajat* lands in Puri; and
 - (iv) some villages in Khurda, to be taken up experimentally before the present field season should begin.
- (4) The re-attestation of some of the records in Cuttack and Puri, which had been found to require correction, and certain additions to the information contained in them.
- (5) The settlement of rents for as many tenants as might be found practicable with the staff placed at the Settlement Officer's disposal.

23. *The revision of records in Khurda.*—Mr. R. C. Ewing, an Assistant Superintendent of Survey, was temporarily transferred to the Settlement Department and placed in subordinate charge of this work as Assistant Settlement Officer. He was assisted in the supervision of the record-writing by Mr. J. E. Webster, Mr. D. H. Kingsford, and Babu Nadia Chand Dutt. The whole revision work was completed in the course of the field season, and the records were finished in recess and sent over to the Settlement Office shortly after the close of the year. The records of 1,342 villages, covering an area of 913 square miles, were dealt with, and the greater portion of the work was done by the *sarbarahkars*, or by substitutes employed and assisted by them. Mr. Macpherson visited Khurda in January 1896, and the work was then thoroughly inspected, and full directions were given as to the system of record-writing to be followed. The Senior Member of the Board of Revenue and I myself also inspected the work in March, and issued some additional instructions. The records will be attested and rents settled in the course of the present year. Mr. Maddox has submitted unofficially some tentative proposals for the enhancement of the existing rents, and these have been forwarded to the Board, but formal proposals, based on some experimental settlement work done by Mr. J. Taylor in the month of October, are awaited before the submission of an official report to the Board. Mr. Ewing has now reverted to his permanent appointment in the Survey Department, and it is proposed to entrust subordinate charge of the work of attestation and settlement of rents to Mr. J. Taylor.

24. *Boundary disputes.*—No such disputes are reported from the districts of Puri and Cuttack, but no fewer than 205 were instituted in Balasore. A large number of these concerned the boundaries between the district of Balasore and the Gurjat Mahals, and were dealt with by Mr. Maddox himself.

25. *Attestation.*—During the course of the year there were 4 officers employed on this work in Balasore, 14 in Cuttack, and 1 in Puri. The officer employed in attesting the *ekrajat* villages in Puri afterwards took up the

experimental' attestation work in Khurda. The outturn for the year and the arrears left at the end of it are shown below:—

			Outturn in 1895-96.			Balance at close of 1895-96.	
1	2	3	4	5	6		
	Villages.	Plots.	Area.	Villages.	Area.		
Cuttack	1,028	1,022,925	495.29	19	4.71		
Balasore	686	232,765	235.84	.....	.....		
Puri { Ekrajat	78	28,543	75.99	40	14.96		
{ Khurda	48	22,938	18.01	1,294	895.46		

The arrears that were left at the end of the year will all be worked off in the course of the present year, the work in Khurda being done together with the settlement of rents for that estate.

26. *Re-attestation work in Cuttack and Puri.*—This is a very serious item of work, which will, I fear, cause some delay in the settlement of rents. But it is absolutely necessary before rents can be settled, as in most cases the information which is required before we can apply our principles of settlement is not to be found in the records. In future an attempt is to be made to carry on this work in the camps of the officers deputed to settle rents, the re-attestation being done immediately before the settlement of rents. Rules for the procedure to be adopted in these camps have been drawn up by Mr. Maddox, and I have every hope for its success. I am unable to give exact figures of the amount of re-attestation that will have to be done, but I believe that it amounts to 11 lakhs of plots in Puri and 9 lakhs in Cuttack. In the course of the past year this work was completed for 299 villages containing 295,520 plots in Cuttack, and for 562 villages containing 357,499 plots in Puri.

27. *Settlement of rents.*—This forms of course the bulk of the work that now remains to be done before we can assess revenue for the temporarily-settled estates of Orissa, and bring our settlement operations to a conclusion.

In previous years some settlement of rents was made by Mr. James Taylor in two parganas in Cuttack, and Mr. Maddox and his Assistants had also done some experimental work in Balasore, but no decision had been arrived at as to the general principles to be observed in dealing with this subject, except that rules for the tabulation of statistics of areas and rents had been framed with a view to future assessment work.

28. At the commencement of the year under report the whole of the settlement staff in Cuttack was put on to attestation work, of which there were heavy arrears; but in Balasore Mr. Maddox found himself able, with the staff placed at his disposal, to commence settlement of rents in four circles on the lines suggested by his experimental work in the previous year. This work was inspected by Mr. Macpherson in January 1896, the rents for some 14,000 tenants having been provisionally settled, and accepted by them, up to that date. Mr. Macpherson recorded the results of his inspection in a note dated 23rd January, and addressed the Board in a letter No. 455S., dated 11th February 1896, describing the procedure and generally approving of it, while at the same time pointing out the difficulties that were thrown in the way of our work by certain provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

As regards Cuttack, Mr. Macpherson wrote in his letter No. 686S., dated 22nd February 1896—

“After careful consideration of the experimental work done by Mr. R. Nathan in Puri, by Mr. J. Taylor in the Bakhrabad and Dalijhora circles in Cuttack, and by Mr. S. L. Maddox and his Assistants in Balasore, I have been unable to devise any scheme of work under the settlement provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Act which appears to me to be satisfactory. My views as to the necessity for the amendment of the Settlement Law have been stated in my letter No. 481S., dated 14th February 1896.”

In the letter of the 14th February alluded to above, Mr. Macpherson advocated a return to the procedure of Act VIII (B.C.) of 1879 for the settlement of rents.

29. A conference on the subject of the suggested amendment of the Bengal Tenancy Act, and with special reference to the needs of the work in North Bihar

and Orissa, was held at Belvedere on the 16th of February 1896, at which His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor presided, and it was then agreed that the Hon'ble Mr. C. C. Stevens, Senior Member of the Board of Revenue, should go down to Orissa, and that I should accompany him, in order that some scheme for carrying on the work of settlement of rents should be devised, pending any alteration that might be found necessary in the law.

30. Mr. Stevens and I left Calcutta on the morning of the 14th March, and returned on the 2nd April, after visiting Cuttack, Khurda, Bhadrak and Balasore. During our stay in Orissa a series of draft rules were framed, based mainly on the suggestions made by Mr. Finucane in his note of December 1893, on Mr. Nathan's proposals for the Kotdesh pargana. This note had also formed the basis of Mr. Maddox's work in Balasore, which was followed to a great extent in the draft rules. The main principles on which they were drawn up have been thus summarised by Government :—

(a) That in the case of the *pahi* raiyats of Orissa (whose rents the zamindars were empowered to enhance, and did enhance during the past 60 years), the existing rents should be taken as fair rents, unless applications be made by the zamindar for enhancement or by the raiyats for reduction.

(b) That in the case of *thani* raiyats, whose rents have not been altered during the term of the last settlement, rents should be proposed to them which would be somewhat lower than the competition rents paid by *pahi* raiyats; that the rents so proposed, if accepted by the raiyats, should be recorded as the fair rents with their consent; and that, if the rents proposed be not accepted, then the fair rents should be settled in accordance with the provisions of Chapter X of the Tenancy Act, following the Civil Procedure Code and Tenancy Act Rules, enhancements being mainly based on the great rise in prices that has taken place since the existing rents were fixed 60 years ago.

(c) That in the case of *basiastidars* and similar privileged tenants, rent should be proposed in a similar manner, which would be somewhat lower than those fixed for non-privileged tenants, and be, if accepted, recorded as fair. If not accepted, rents are to be settled strictly in accordance with the procedure laid down in Chapter X of the Tenancy Act and the Government rules made under it.

These rules, together with my diary of the tour, were forwarded to the Board with my letter No. 1064S., dated 18th April 1896. The Board forwarded my letter and enclosures to Government with their letter No. 402A., dated 6th May 1896, and in the Government orders contained in letter No. 400T.R., dated 6th June 1896, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor expressed his approval of the scheme proposed, with a few reservations, as a rough but practical method of procedure.

31. In the meantime, during our visit to Orissa, Mr. Maddox had been authorised, in anticipation of the orders of Government, to proceed with the work on the lines proposed, and in March it was started in five camps in Cuttack, and later on two more camps were opened in Puri, while from April to the end of the year four camps were at work in Balasore. The rules were modified and amended in some details during two subsequent visits paid by me to Orissa in June and August, and were discussed by me and the Settlement Officer with the Commissioner of Orissa and the Collector of Cuttack, and with several leading gentlemen of the province, some of whom also criticised the rules in formal communications. They were submitted in their final form to the Board with my letter No. 2244S., dated 17th September 1896, on which orders have not yet been received.

32. The results of the work done up to the close of the year have been fully analysed in the instructive statistical statements that have been submitted by the Settlement Officer with his report. The progress made may be summarised as follows :—

Number of villages in which rents have been settled	...	1,410
" of tenants for whom	...	177,188
" of " whose existing rents have been settled	...	91,808
" of " newly assessed	...	8,131
" of " whose rents have been enhanced for excess area	...	29,519
Number of tenants whose rents have been reduced for decrease in area	...	3,842
Number of tenants whose rents have been enhanced for other reasons	...	43,888
Number of new rentals accepted by the tenants	...	16,323
" of " contested	...	865

33. It was only in two circles that there was any opposition to our procedure, and in one of these the tenants were notorious litigants, who had for long been on bad terms with their landlord. But in both these circles the opposition soon quieted down when our methods of settlement began to be understood. The statistics showing the amount of enhancement in the case of each class of tenant do not show the working of our present rules quite accurately, as some of the work was done under Mr. Maddox's original scheme, and some classes have been affected by recent modifications in the rules.

34. The programme of work for the year 1896-97 has been approved by Government, and work has already been commenced on the lines indicated in it. It involves a great advance in the settlement of rents, nearly 40 Assistant Settlement Officers, with 5 supervising officers having been deputed to this work.

35. *Term of settlement and percentage of the assets to be granted to the zamindars.*—These important questions are still under the consideration of the Board and of Government. They have been the subject of reports by Mr. Macpherson and myself in the course of the year.

36. *Rise in prices*—There was much correspondence on this subject during the year, and, with the assistance of the Collectors, much valuable evidence of the rise in the price of food-grains since the date of the last settlement has been collected. Section 39 of the Bengal Tenancy Act was extended to Orissa by Government notification No. 99L.R., dated 9th January 1896, and the local areas and marts for which price lists are to be framed have been determined by the Local Government.

37. Sections 7, 40, 52 and 192 of the Bengal Tenancy Act were also extended to the Orissa Division immediately after the close of the year.

CHITTAGONG.

38. It is unnecessary to review at any length the work that has been done during the past year in this district. Steady progress was made in the work of assessment, and the subsidiary work of publication of records, hearing of objections and trial of disputes, mahal milan, and the copying of the records, all moved on with the assessment work. The whole of the procedure was enquired into by Government with reference to a memorial presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, and in Land Revenue Resolution No. 5678, dated 17th December 1896, Sir Charles Elliott stated that he saw no ground for any alterations.

39. Mr. C. G. H. Allen took over charge of the post of Settlement Officer from Mr. C. J. Stevenson-Moore in November 1895, and remained in charge for the rest of the year. He maintained throughout the year a most careful supervision over every detail of the assessment work, and also took a not inconsiderable share of it upon his own shoulders. He has submitted a clear and concise account of the year's working, which is printed as appendix III to this report.

40. The assessment reports of four thanas, viz., Ramu, Jaldi, Kutubdia, and Chakaria, were submitted by this Department to the Board in the course of the year.

The area of the district is 2,492 square miles, out of which we are dealing with 1,910, contained in 1,039 villages, 245,276 tenancies, and about 2,700,000 plots.

Mahal milan, or the adjustment of the areas of estates, has been completed for 942 villages. Assessment has been completed for 695 villages. The draft records of 610 villages have been published.

The records of 507 villages have been finally published.

During previous years the settlement staff disposed of 6,296 objections under section 105, and 450 disputes under section 106. During the past year they dealt with 4,047 objections and 37 disputes. 691 objections and 16 disputes were pending at the close of the year.

Statistics of tenancies, showing rent and area, were compiled for the whole area under survey in 1894-95, and commented on in paragraph 43 of the Director's Annual Report for last year.

41. Copying work has only been commenced in the year under report, and is consequently somewhat behindhand. It is being now energetically

pushed on by the Settlement Officer. In consequence of the dangers which attend the establishment of the old working khatians as the final record of rights, it has been determined to prepare a clean copy of them for final publication, and thus to secure a legible record, concerning the entries in which there can be no doubt.

42. In paragraph 13 of his report Mr. Allen has clearly and briefly described the general principles on which assessments are being made, and in his 14th paragraph he points out how, thanks to the excellence of the khas tahsil department in Chittagong, and the cordial co-operation of the Collector, the new rents are being rapidly brought on to the rent-rolls and realised. Mr. Allen has not given any definite information in his report as to the realisation of the new revenue, but I learn from other sources that it is being collected without difficulty.

The whole validity of our reassessment proceedings was contested in a case before the Special Judge, known as the Rajakul case. In an exhaustive judgment, dated May 18th, 1896, the Judge found for Government on all points, and I understand that no appeal has as yet been made against his decision.

43. The general result of the assessment work up to the close of the past year has been to raise the Government revenue by Rs. 1,40,342, that is, by 47 per. cent. on a previous revenue of Rs. 2,98,378. At the same rate of increase for the whole district the total enhancement of revenue will amount to Rs. 1,81,000.

The following table shows the enhancement made up to date of the rents of each class of tenant:—

CLASS.	Numbers.	Former rents.	Present rents.	Percentage of increase.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
<i>I.—Superior Tenants.</i>					
Talukdars ...	21,258	Rs. 1,67,507	Rs. 2,75,272	64	Due partly to a large increase of cultivation, and partly to abnormally low assessments in previous years.
Ijaradars ...	251	20,320	22,716	11	
Jotedars ...	30,553	1,10,551	1,34,879	22	
<i>II.—Subordinate Tenants.</i>					
Under-tenure-holders ...	990	5,830	8,602	47	Partly due to the inclusion of tenants who formerly paid no rent.
Raiyats ...	46,349	90,400	99,191	9	
Under-raiyats ...	10,075	19,207	20,388	6	

The question of the apportionment of costs, and their realisation, in part at least, from the owners of permanently-settled estates who have benefited by the survey and record of rights, has not yet been determined.

The whole of the settlement staff has worked in camp throughout the year, as is usual in Chittagong, and the Assistant Settlement Officers deserve much credit for good and steady work performed in the face of many difficulties.

Palamau Government Estate.

44. The estate comprises 400 villages, covering 283 square miles, which are scattered all over the Palamau district. These villages contain 16,566

plots, held in 13,242 tenancies, and, with the exception of one small village taken up in the past year, were all surveyed and attested in previous years. The work of the present year consisted of the assessment of the new revenue, and the demarcation of certain village boundaries with a view to the definition of some new protected forests.

The assessment of the estate is being conducted under the provisions of Act VIII (B.C.) of 1879. The orders of Government on Mr. Sunder's rate report were contained in Government letter No. 77 T.R., dated 29th April 1896. The proposals made by the Settlement Officer were generally approved, but objection was taken to the high rate of enhancement suggested, and Mr. Sunder was warned that great leniency should be shown in applying the rates sanctioned.

There was some delay in issuing extracts from the jamabandis, owing to the necessity for obtaining Government orders on the proposals made for the assessment of trees. These orders were issued in August, and the Settlement Officer at once commenced to issue the *ferishtis* to the raiyats. These *ferishtis* are convenient abstracts of the lands and trees of each holding, showing the details of the assessment made, and bearing the Settlement Officer's signature. The *ferishtis* were almost all distributed in the course of the year, and the jamabandis have been published since its close in the manner prescribed by Act VIII (B.C.) of 1879.

45. The general result of the new assessment is an enhancement of Rs. 17,767, or 31.35 per cent., over the attested existing revenue, and of Rs. 33,591, or 82 per cent., over the revenue of the last settlement. In addition to this an assessment of Rs. 3,444 has been made on 19,527 *mohwa* trees, and a temporary settlement for one year of Rs. 10,440 on 98,996 *palas* and *kusum* trees.

The settlement has been made for 15 years, and it has been determined to supersede the old thikadari system, and to hold the estate khas.

The Settlement Officer had much work to do in the demarcation of protected forests, which has been dealt with in separate reports elsewhere.

Mr. Sunder's work has been marked throughout the year by its customary vigour and zeal, but there has been much unnecessary friction between him and other authorities, and I have thought it advisable to omit some controversial matter in publishing his report.

DARJEELING TERAI JOTES.

46. The total area to be resettled in the Darjeeling Terai amounts to 230.37 square miles, and it is divided up into 946 estates or jotes, comprised in 19 villages and 2 parganas. Of these jotes, 84 are held on 30-year leases, and the rest on a 10-year settlement.

These jotes were surveyed in 1895-96, and the records then prepared for them have been attested during the past year. A rate report has also been submitted under Act VIII (B.C.) of 1879, which is now before Government for orders. The proposals involve an increase of 25 per cent. on the revenue—an increase justified by the actual letting value of the lands, and by the rise in prices in the past 16 years.

Eighty-nine boundary disputes were decided in the course of the year.

The operations were inspected by Mr. Macpherson in December 1895, by Mr. Nolan, the Commissioner, in March 1896, and by me in June of the same year.

Munshi Panchkowri Biswas was Assistant Settlement Officer from the 28th of October 1895 to July 1896, when he reverted to his permanent post. Babu Nibaran Chandra Ghatak, Deputy Collector, was appointed in the first instance as Settlement Officer, and worked in that capacity from the 19th of December 1895 to the 25th of January 1896, when he was seriously injured by a fall from his horse. His place was taken by Babu Sasi Bhusan Dutta, who worked up to the end of the year.

47. A peculiarity of this settlement is that the large majority of the cultivators are tenants-at-will, and have no rights in the land they occupy. Some are called *thikadars* and pay a cash rent, and others *adhiars* and pay a produce rent of half the crop raised. The only tenants with any rights in the soil are the jotedars themselves, who have been found to hold the status of occupancy

raiylats, but of the 9,599 tenants recorded in our papers, 943 are jotedars, 6,529 are *thikadars* and their cash-paying tenants, and 2,127 are *adhiaars* holding either under jotedars or thikadars.

Minor Settlements.

PATASPUR ESTATES IN MIDNAPORE.

48. In previous annual reports of this Department, descriptions have been given of the earlier stages of the work in these estates, and it has been explained how the work has dragged on from the year 1892. Before the commencement of the year under report, two special Settlement Officers had broken down, and been obliged to take leave on medical certificate, and I regret to say that a third officer, Babu Promotho Nath Dutt, broke down during the past year. He went on leave in February 1896, and was succeeded by Babu Giris Chunder Dutt, who had gained much experience of settlement work under Mr. Maddox in Balasore.

49. The original programme for the year 1895-96 was far too sanguine, and it would have been impossible for the late Settlement Officer to work up to it even under the most favourable circumstances. It provided for the completion of the operations in March 1896, whereas, with the energetic and indefatigable officer we now have in charge of the operations, I do not anticipate that we can bring them to a conclusion before the end of April 1897, and that only by working at very high pressure.

50. The area under settlement covers 54 square miles, and has been surveyed in 96 villages, 81,000 plots, and 14,000 tenancies.

Record-writing and attestation having been completed in previous years, the work before the Settlement Officer in 1895-96 consisted of the settlement of fair rents, draft publication, the hearing of objections, the trial of disputes, final publication, and the submission of the final report. Fair rent work commenced in October 1895, and was carried on by Babu Giris Chundra Dutt, in the face of many difficulties, up to the end of June 1896, when he completed the work. In this time the rents of 10,124 tenants of all classes were settled, and over 1,000 miscellaneous objections were dealt with. I visited Midnapore in April and looked into the work with the Collector and the Settlement Officer.

Under my instructions the work of draft publication was pushed on as fast as possible, and the draft records of 95 out of 96 villages were published before the close of the year.

Although the period within which objections can be filed had not expired in the case of many villages before the year closed, no fewer than 1,748 objections had already been received. Of these, the Settlement Officer disposed of 1,164 before the end of the year. As the decisions in many of these cases involved some alteration in the rents settled previously under section 104, the correction of the records after the cases had been disposed of was very laborious.

Only 5 formal disputes were raised under section 106, of which 3 were decided during the year under report. The Settlement Officer will find that the proposed amendment of Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act will remove the objections raised by him to the procedure under section 106.

51. In a useful statement embodied in his report, the Settlement Officer shows that he has raised rents by nearly Rs. 10,000 over a former rental of Rs. 42,000, that is, by about 23·75 per cent., of which 16·73 per cent. is due to enhancements on account of excess area, and 7·02 to enhancements under other sections. The Settlement Officer explains his assessments as follows :—

“ It will be seen that the largest increase has been obtained from additional rents being fixed for excess areas of holdings. This is due to two reasons: first, the copies of rent-rolls supplied by the zamindars, from which existing rents have been recorded in the *khatians*, do not include rents for new lands which the raiylats have taken up since the settlement of 1871, and so much land which really forms part of holdings as already assessed by the proprietor has now been assessed anew under the head of “excess areas.” Secondly, much unsettled land of the estates has now been settled with the raiylats by the Settlement Officer. The raiylats are generally satisfied with the assessment made, and where cases of high assessment are brought to notice under section 105, they are carefully considered by me. There has not been a single appeal against our decisions under section 104.”

52. Much difficulty has been experienced in dealing with *lakhiraj* lands and lands held on privileged tenures, and in separating these lands from others held on rent, as the attestation of these lands was very inefficiently done, and it is due to the necessity of making an accurate record of them that much of the delay in winding up the proceedings is due. It may be noticed with regret that one of the most prominent zamindars concerned, Babu Harendra Nath Roy of Laksmannath, Balasore, has seen fit to obstruct rather than assist the work.

53. The Collector has aptly summarised the work of the past year, to the supervision of which he has given much valuable attention, in the following remarks:—

“It is no fault of the present Settlement Officer that the work has not been completed. He has worked hard and well, and has, I think, gained the confidence of the people. The late Settlement Officer could not have finished the work under any circumstances according to his programme, as he was hampered to some extent by illness, and also by delay in receipt of orders as regards assessment. But there were many defects in his work, for which he was much to be blamed.”

JAIPUR GOVERNMENT ESTATES IN BOGRA.

54. I regret to report that but little real progress has been made in this settlement beyond the preparation and approval of a Rate Report, which will now be utilised as a basis for the settlement of rents under the Bengal Tenancy Act.

The sole reason for the delay in completing this settlement, and the consequent waste of money, is due to the incompetence of the late Settlement Officer, Babu Sarat Chandra Das. I inspected his work on April 29th and 30th, and found it bad in every respect, and ascertained that the records on which he proposed to base his assessment had been so carelessly prepared and attested that there was no chance of our being able to make a satisfactory settlement of rents until they had been carefully corrected and re-attested. The Settlement Officer's work was fully described by me in my inspection note, and as a consequence of that note he was removed, censured, and punished departmentally, and another officer, Mr. S. S. Day, an Assistant Settlement Officer from North Bihar, appointed in his place. His annual report, which is clear and concise, is printed as appendix VII to this report, with a covering note by Mr. Nolan, the Commissioner.

It would be useless to repeat here the statistics of the work returned by Babu Sarat Chandra Das. They are untrustworthy, and most of the work that was done by him will have to be done over again.

55. The Rate Report was prepared on the lines suggested by the Commissioner during a visit of inspection in January 1896, and the proposed general enhancement of about 22 per cent. is based on the rise in the prices of food-grains which has taken place since the last settlement. The actual individual enhancements are obtained by a classification of lands and an equalisation of the various rates paid in different villages for each class.

Since the new Settlement Officer has been appointed he has been mainly engaged, with the effective assistance of the manager of the estates, Babu Annada Nanda Sen, in correcting errors in the records and reducing them to some sort of order. Now that the principles of assessment have been approved, there should be little delay in settling rents, and the operations should be brought to a close without difficulty during the present year.

GOVERNMENT ESTATES AND TEMPORARILY SETTLED ESTATES IN BACKERGUNGE.

56. Babu Peari Mohim Basu was in charge of the settlement work in these estates throughout the year, in addition to his work on other settlements under the Bengal Tenancy Act, and his settlements under the Regulations in the same district.

Char Bairagia.—The final report on this re-settlement was submitted during the year, and was approved by the Board of Revenue, who desired me to inform the Settlement Officer that they were much pleased with the success with which he had completed the work.

Char Romesh.—No orders have been passed by the Board on the final report of this settlement, which was submitted during the year 1894-95, pending a

further enquiry and report as to the area found to be under cultivation in November 1896, and as to the rents actually collected in the past year.

Char Nalgora.—This settlement was completed in 1894-95, but a civil suit having been instituted in the local courts, which may eventually seriously affect our records, the final report has been kept back pending its final disposal in the appellate court.

Chur Lakhi alias *Padma Manasa*.—The settlement of some land which formed an accretion to this estate was completed during the year under report. The actual work had been brought to a conclusion before the close of 1894-95, but final publication of the records was made in the past year. The submission of the final report has been kept pending until instructions are received as to the action to be taken by the Settlement Officer in consequence of a decision given by the Special Judge in favour of a certain *hebai* talukdar, who claims rights over a portion of the estate.

Tuskhali Estate.—This estate is contained in 23 villages, which cover an area of 35.99 square miles, and have been surveyed in 40,734 plots, appertaining to 5,823 tenancies. The estate was surveyed, and the initial records were written in 1894-95, and in the past year attestation was completed. No fair rents have yet been settled.

At least 75 per cent. of the tenants are settled and occupancy raiyats.

1372 objections and 24 formal disputes were dealt with by the Settlement Officer in the course of the year.

Char Heshamuddin.—This island, which covers 15.09 square miles and contains 5 villages, was surveyed in 1894-95 in 15,008 plots and 1,993 tenancies. The records were attested in the course of the year and the rents of all grades of tenants settled. The settlement of rents resulted in an increase in the total rental from Rs. 23,559 to Rs. 29,751, an enhancement of 21.43 per cent.

Char Krishnapura.—This estate is comprised in one village covering 3.67 square miles. It has been surveyed in 4,044 plots and 704 tenancies in the course of the year, and the initial record-writing has been completed. Attestation will be made and rents will be settled in the current year.

GOVERNMENT ESTATES IN GAYA.

57. The operations in these estates may be more conveniently treated of in Chapter IV of this report, in connection with those which are proceeding in the Tikari Ward's Estate in Gaya, as the Settlement Officer has sent up (as was done last year by his predecessor) one report on the operations in both areas. In addition to the 108 villages which were surveyed in 1894-95, 10 more villages were brought under survey in the past year.

GOVERNMENT ESTATES IN SHAHABAD.

58. I regret to say that practically no progress was made in the settlement of 15 Government estates under Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act during the year under report. These estates are comprised in 20 villages, containing 8,205 plots and 1,000 tenancies, and cover an area of 18.75 square miles.

Mr. Macpherson visited Arrah in November 1895 and gave the Settlement Officer instructions for the preparation of proposals for the settlement of fair rents. The work was also inspected by the Collector, Mr. Marindin, during the year, who gave further directions on the same subject. On my paying a visit of inspection in September, however, I found that practically nothing had been done to carry out Mr. Macpherson's orders, and that beyond the remeasurement of one small village, and the formal re-attestation of the records, no action had been taken since the date of his visit. I recorded the result of my inspection in a note, in which I included also instructions as to the preparation of the reports on which orders as to the settlement of fair rents can be passed. It is much to be regretted that through the incompetence of the Settlement Officer so much time should have been wasted, although, as he was employed on other settlement work at the time, his services were not altogether lost to Government. It is hoped that the settlement of all these estates will be completed in the current year.

CHAPTER III.

PRIVATE ESTATES.

Major Operations.

NORTH BIHAR.

59. The following table shows progress under the main heads of settlement work in the four years 1892-93 to 1895-96 :—

HEADS.	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.	Remaining on 1st Octo- ber 1896.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>Muzaffarpur (4,500 villages).</i>	Villages.	Villages.	Villages.	Villages.	Villages.	
1. Khanapuri or initial re- cord-writing.	1,035	1,384	1,642	439	Nil.	
2. Attestation ...	320	712	1,361	1,633	474	
3. Draft publication ...	311	696	1,265	1,541	687	
4. Final „ ...	Nil.	Nil.	768	1,161	2,571	
<i>Champaran (2,801 villages).</i>						
1. Khanapuri or initial record- writing.	259	324	1,171	1,047	Nil.	
2. Attestation ...	76	230	373	1,075	1,047	
3. Draft publication ...	71	300	251	632	1,547	
4. Final „ ...	Nil.	54	252	372	2,123	
<i>Saran (4,296 villages).</i>						
1. Khanapuri or initial record- writing.	Nil.	1,208	Nil.	1,235	1,853	
2. Attestation ...	Nil.	48	1,160	Nil.	3,088	
3. Draft publication ...	Nil.	48	217	867	3,164	
4. Final „ ...	Nil.	Nil.	57	11	4,228	

60. From the above figures it will be seen that all survey and record-writing has been completed in the districts of Muzaffarpur and Champaran ; and it is proposed to finish the attestation of all villages in those districts in the course of the present season. There will then remain some case work, the final preparation and publication of the records, the recovery of costs, and the submission of the final reports.

61. I was in charge of the settlement operations in the districts of Saran and Champaran from the 1st of October to the 7th of November, when Mr. E. G. Colvin returned to his post as Settlement Officer. I was in charge of Muzaffarpur up to the 15th of February, when I was relieved by Mr. C. J. Stevenson-Moore. Mr. Colvin went on furlough on the 8th of March, when Mr. Stevenson-Moore became Settlement Officer of Saran and Champaran as well as of Muzaffarpur. From the 7th of July to the end of the year Mr. Stevenson-Moore was absent on special leave, and during his absence the Assistant Settlement Officers in charge of the work in each district corresponded directly with me. I was on tour in Muzaffarpur for about three weeks in July, but was unfortunately prevented by illness from visiting Siwan and Motihari.

62. Mr. Stevenson-Moore has submitted very full and interesting reports of the operations carried through in each of the above districts in 1895-96, and he and all the officers concerned are to be congratulated on the success with which a very heavy programme has been completed.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal came to Muzaffarpur on tour in the month of July, and found an opportunity of examining the procedure adopted, and of inspecting the office and the records.

63. The reports submitted by the Settlement Officer, with his covering letter, in which certain general subjects are dealt with by him, are printed as

appendices IX to IX (iv) to this report. It is impossible for me to discuss adequately all the subjects which are treated of by him within the limits of my report, and I propose to deal briefly with the progress made in various branches of the work in each district in the course of the year, and to ask the attention of Government to the reports themselves, and to the correspondence that has already passed, as regards such matters as transfers, procedure rules, the arrangement of records, and the like.

MUZAFFARPUR.

64. The programme of work for the year was a heavy one, and included the supervision of khanapuri and the disposal of boundary disputes in an area of 445 square miles, the attestation of the records of no fewer than 1,664 villages, covering an area of 1,341 square miles, the consideration and determination of a very large number of petitions, including applications for settlement of rent, objections and disputes, and the initiation of proceedings for the computation and recovery of costs. To carry out this work 21 officers were deputed from general duty, for various periods, as Settlement and Assistant Settlement Officers, and the bulk of the work of direction and supervision fell on the shoulders of Mr. R. B. Hughes, who was Assistant Settlement Officer in charge throughout the year. Good progress was made in every branch of the work, in spite of the serious illness of some members of the staff, and the year closed with scarcely any arrears, except in case work, in which, under our present system, some arrears are inevitable.

65. In the area for which records were written, 590,130 plots were entered in the papers, and no fewer than 22,001 disputes were entered by the amins on their dispute lists. Two officers were employed in supervising this work, and in testing the record-writing. They disposed of all the boundary disputes which arose during the year, and also of 7,857 of the disputes entered on the dispute lists. The whole of the khanapuri programme was carried out during the year, and there were no boundary disputes pending in any part of the district when it closed. The survey and initial record-writing for this district have now been completed.

66. *Attestation.*—Omitting 15 villages, which could not be taken up for various reasons, the actual number of villages dealt with during the year was 1,649, covering an area of 1,328 square miles. Of these, 1,633 were attested, covering an area of 1,319 square miles, and the success with which this heavy work has been carried through speaks much for the loyalty and energy of the officers engaged. In the area actually attested there were 2,083,026 plots and 423,301 holdings. Nearly 42,000 disputes were disposed of, and 31,180 correction orders were entered in the order-sheets. The Settlement Officer has given a full account in his report of the details of the organisation by which he was enabled to carry this work through.

67. *Case work.*—Two thousand three hundred and seven applications were made under section 104 for the settlement of fair rents, and 1,859 were disposed of in the course of the year. The rents of 3,862 tenants were settled, their rents being raised from Rs. 29,276 to Rs. 31,826, an increase of 8·7 per cent. This enhancement was due to the working of section 52 of the Bengal Tenancy Act, and indicates merely the assessment of new cultivation.

Ten thousand eight hundred and seventeen objections under section 105 were filed during the year, and 7,697 were disposed of. There were 4,128 of these objections pending at the close of the year, but the work of disposing of them was carried on throughout October, and many have been dealt with since the date of the Settlement Officer's report.

There has unfortunately been small progress made in the disposal of case work under section 106, but special officers are now engaged in dealing with these arrears, and they are being rapidly reduced. Six hundred and eighty-five of these formal disputes were filed, and only 315 were disposed of.

68. *Draft and final publication.*—The work of publication has steadily progressed. The records of all villages attested in previous years have been published in draft, and no fewer than 1,460 draft records out of 1,633 attested this year have already been published.

One thousand one hundred and sixty-one records were finally published in the course of the year, and a commencement has already been made in the final

publication of records attested last field season—a fact which speaks very well for the arrangements now in force for the check and copying of records in the head-quarters office.

69. *Recovery of cost.*—This question has been dealt with very fully in separate correspondence, and I will not refer to it at length here. The system on which we had started computation and recovery work was reported to Government in my letter No. 102T.S., dated 18th May 1896, and the general principles enunciated were approved by the Board and by Government, subject to further report on some of the details. This further report has now been received from the Settlement Officer, together with carefully revised rules and registers, and will be shortly submitted to Government. The actual work of recovery has been very successful up to date in Muzaffarpur, and the promptitude with which the raiyats have paid the sums due from them, in exchange for their copies of the record, is gratifying evidence of the value they attach to the entries made. Out of a total demand of Rs. 21,443 from landlords, Rs. 17,766 were paid up voluntarily, Rs. 1,548 were realised by the certificate procedure, and there was a balance of Rs. 2,129 due at the end of the year. Out of a total demand of Rs. 15,062 from tenants, Rs. 14,654 were paid up voluntarily, Rs. 84 were realised by the certificate procedure, and there was a balance of only Rs. 324 due at the end of the year. The cost of computation and recovery was unduly heavy, amounting to 15·24 per cent., but this was solely due to the employment of a senior officer of experience, Babu Siva Sunker Singh, to start the operations, and the extra cost has been justified, I think, by the success of the work, and the assistance given by that officer in arranging the details of our procedure.

70. *Preparation of Mutation Registers.*—These were prepared for the use of the Registrar of Mutations under Act III (B.C.) of 1895 at Hajipur, to which thana the provisions of the Act have been extended. One thousand two hundred and eighty-two volumes, with maps and field indexes, containing 719,575 plots, were prepared in the course of the year.

71. *Statistics of area, rents, and crops.*—These very interesting figures are commented on by the Settlement Officer in his report, and will be fully dealt with in the completion report for the district. The statistics of status and rent have as yet been compiled for only about one-third of the district, as they cannot be properly ascertained until the records have been completed, but the figures of area and crops are practically complete now for the whole district.

Rent-rates run high on the whole, but it will be best to postpone discussion of them until complete figures for each thana can be given.

The two noticeable points in the other statistics are that, excluding current fallow and mango groves, there are only 141 square miles out of an area of 3,035 square miles in Muzaffarpur, which are now available for fresh cultivation, and that 32 per cent. of the cultivated area of the district is sown with indigo.

72. *Miscellaneous.*—A report embodying comparative statistics for the area dealt with in the experimental survey of 1885, and re-attested in the past season, was submitted with my letter No. 2596S., dated 6th November 1896, to the address of the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces. The question of the transfer of occupancy rights in Muzaffarpur, illustrated by the figures given by the Settlement Officer in his report, was dealt with in my letter No. 1923S., dated 31st July 1896, to the same address. The figures of transfer given do not show that the land is passing into the hands of money-lenders to any serious extent in Muzaffarpur, though the right of transfer is more abused in Champaran. The other questions referred to by the Settlement Officer, the exclusion of *diara* lands from settlement under Chapter X of the Tenancy Act, the numbering and arrangement of villages, the utilisation of patwaris, the extension of the survey operations to other districts, and the amendment of the Partition Act, have all been separately dealt with elsewhere, and need not be discussed in this report.

CHAMPARAN.

73. The programme in this district was similar to that in Muzaffarpur in that it involved the completion of the survey and initial record-writing in the

district, the attestation of a large area surveyed in the previous year, and a considerable amount of case work of various kinds. But in Champaran the attestation work has proved much more simple, and the settlement of fair rents much more onerous, than in Muzaffarpur.

74. Two survey parties surveyed and prepared the initial records for 1,047 villages, covering an area of 1,185 square miles in the extreme north-west of the district. The work was easy, and the programme was carried out, but the camps suffered much from the unhealthiness of the tract, and it was late in the season before a real start could be made. Four Assistant Settlement Officers were employed in testing the record-writing and deciding disputes, and they dealt also with 513 boundary disputes.

75. *Attestation.*—Mr. Stevenson-Moore gives an interesting account of the work done under this head, and refers to the correspondence that has passed on the subject of some entries made in the records of a few villages as to the obligation of the raiyats to grow indigo in a certain area of their holdings. Fortunately the managers of the factories concerned have not showed any desire to perpetuate the leases to which objection has been taken, and the result of the correspondence has been to secure the same terms for the indigo-growing raiyats in these villages that are enjoyed by the raiyats who grow indigo for all the neighbouring factories.

Some special difficulties arose in the villages belonging to a zamindar, known as the Madhuban Babu, owing to the strenuous attempt made by his agents to procure the entry of false rents in our papers. The raiyats naturally responded by trying to set up lower rents than those actually paid, and the fact that for the past 15 years there has been constant litigation between both parties in these estates did not mend matters. The preparation of a careful record of rights and rents in this area cannot but have the best possible effect. The programme of attestation was carried through without a hitch, and the records for 1,075 villages, covering 1,162 square miles, and containing 1,358,793 plots held by 193,611 tenants, were attested before the close of the field season.

76. *Settlement of fair rents.*—I reproduce here the interesting table given in the body of the Settlement Officer's report, showing the work that has been done in Champaran under this head in the past three years:—

AREA.	Number of tenants for whom fair rents were settled.	Former rental.	Fair rent settled.	Enhancement.	Percentage of enhancement.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Attested in 1893-94 ...	22,151	Rs. 1,44,556	Rs. 1,62,636	Rs. 18,080	12·50
Ditto 1891-95 ...	12,850	1,09,276	1,20,028	10,752	9·83
Ditto 1895-96 ...	34,633	3,69,366	3,93,762	29,396	7·9
Total ...	69,634	6,23,198	6,81,426	58,228	9·3

The work done in the past year was very heavy, and the result of it satisfactory. Practically the whole of the enhancement was due to the assessment of new cultivation, and was obtained by compromise, there being only very few cases in which the existence of some excess area was denied. In most cases the claim for increased rent on the ground of 'prevailing rate' was withdrawn when the raiyats agreed to a compromise as to excess area, but it is noticeable that the prevailing rate section of the Tenancy Act has been almost invariably found unworkable wherever it has been tried. All compromises were carefully scrutinised by the Assistant Settlement Officers before they were admitted, and they satisfied themselves that the new rents were fair and equitable before decreeing them.

77. *Draft and final publication.*—The work of publication of the records in draft cannot proceed so rapidly in Champaran as in Muzaffarpur, owing

to the large number of applications for the settlement of fair rents. Six hundred and thirty-two records were published in draft, and 372 finally, in the course of the year.

78. *Case work under sections 105 and 106.*—This work is also delayed *pari passu* with draft publication work, and cannot be dealt with so rapidly as in Muzaffarpur. Four thousand one hundred and twenty-six objections under section 105, and 393 formal disputes under section 106, were instituted in the course of the year, the total number for disposal during the year being 4,829 objections and 401 disputes. Of these, 3,971 objections and 322 disputes were dealt with.

79. *Recovery of cost.*—The work under this head was complicated by the necessity for finally adjusting the accounts for the work of the first season, when considerable advances were made by the landlords direct to the patwaris, who were then working as amins on behalf of Government. The settlement of these accounts had to be postponed until the recess, and it was consequently only possible to recover costs from the raiyats in the past year. The recovery of their share of the cost was attended with the same success in Champaran as in Muzaffarpur, and out of a sum of Rs. 38,125 no less than Rs. 36,452 were paid in voluntarily, in exchange for copies of the record. Certificates are being issued for the balance, much of which is due from the landlords on account of abandoned holdings. The action of one of the most prominent land-owners in the district, Mr. J. J. Macleod, C.I.E., in engaging to bear the whole of the tenants' share in his villages, is worthy of special notice. The advance accounts referred to above have since been cleared up by Mr. Kerr after careful enquiry, and the amounts still due from the landlords concerned will be collected at an early date.

80. *Statistics of status, rent, area, and crops.*—The work of compiling these statistics has steadily progressed, and the results given by the figures hitherto obtained have been commented on by Mr. Stevenson-Moore. The large proportion of non-occupancy raiyats—13 per cent. of the total number of raiyats—is specially noted in connection with the question of transfers, and there can be little doubt that the value of occupancy rights is less understood in Champaran than in Muzaffarpur.

The rent-rates throughout the district are low, the population being comparatively sparse. Were it not that the raiyats of Champaran are notoriously less thrifty than their neighbours, they should be on the whole very well off. Rice occupies 49 per cent. of the cropped area.

The statistics of irrigation are unfortunately incomplete. The Settlement Officer will doubtless see if they can be supplemented for his final report.

81. *Transfers.*—This question was reported on by me in my letter No. 1923S., dated 31st July 1896, to the address of the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces. The position in Champaran is certainly more grave than that in Muzaffarpur, as the land is passing more into the hands of mere money-lenders, and less into the hands of other raiyats. But I agree with the Settlement Officer in attributing this to extravagant ceremonies and customs, rather than to rack-renting, as there is little ground, in any part of the area we have dealt with, for supposing that the rent-rates are as high as the land could well afford to bear.

SARAN.

82. No survey or record-writing was done in this district in 1894-95, but this work was re-commenced in the past year, and 668 square miles were surveyed and khanapuried. The rest of the programme of work consisted of the trial of applications for settlement of rents, the hearing of objections and disputes, and the completion of records for the area surveyed in 1893-94. I was myself Settlement Officer up to the 8th of November 1895, when I was relieved by Mr. E. G. Colvin. The latter went on furlough on the 8th of March 1896, and was succeeded by Mr. C. J. Stevenson-Moore. Mr. Gauntlett was in subordinate charge of the district throughout the year, with the exception of six weeks in August and September, when he was compelled by constant attacks of fever to take privilege leave.

83. *Record-writing.*—By a most unfortunate neglect of the scheme of work prepared by Captain Crichton but little progress was made in the initial

record-writing until the season was far advanced, and the work had to be much hurried in the end. Mr. Gauntlett maintained a most active supervision over this work, but he was only indifferently supported by his Assistant Settlement Officers. Six hundred and sixty-nine villages were inspected, and 13,109 disputes decided, in the 1,235 villages, covering 668 square miles, that were dealt with. All the 765 boundary disputes instituted were dealt with during the year. Only 61 appeals have been lodged against these decisions, and out of 39 appeals decided, 35 have resulted in the confirmation of the order of the original court.

84. *Draft publication.*—The draft records of 867 villages were published in the course of the year, but none of the records of the villages attested in 1894-95 were finally framed for publication before the close of the year.

85. *Settlement of fair rents.*—One thousand three hundred and eighty-five applications, involving 21,729 tenants, were decided during the year, with the result that the rents of these tenants were raised from Rs. 2,25,414 to Rs. 2,54,415, or by 12·86 per cent. Of this enhancement, 12·12 per cent. was due to the assessment of new cultivation. Practically the whole of the enhancement was obtained by compromise, but the Raj officers did not always show themselves ready to compromise cases for decrease of area, even when the decrease was clearly proved. In fact, the Manager has not in the past year shown that reasonable care to prevent the institution and prosecution of frivolous cases, or that solicitude for the protection of individual tenants, that characterised his attitude in the earlier days of this work.

86. *Objections under section 105.*—The Hatwa Raj has not exercised a wise discretion in making use of this section, and has instituted several thousands of objections, three-fourths of which have been rejected, and many of which were patently frivolous. There were 9,487 such cases filed during the year. Seven thousand one hundred and forty-three were dealt with, and 2,748 were pending at the close of the year.

87. *Disputes under section 106.*—Twelve of these cases were pending at the close of 1894-95, and 116 were instituted during the year. Only 22 of these have been disposed of, but the balance will soon be dealt with.

88. *Statistics of status, rent, cultivation and crops.*—These figures are being compiled thana by thana as the work progresses. The rent-rates are naturally higher than those in Champaran, but do not appear to be so high as in Muzaffarpur.

The crop statistics bring out the importance of the rabi crop in this tract, and the figures show that the winter rice, which has failed so universally this year, only occupies from 24 to 30 per cent. of the cropped area.

CHAKLA ROSHNABAD (MAHARAJA'S ESTATES) IN TIPPERA AND NOAKHALI.

89. These estates cover an area of 555·65 square miles, and are contained in 1,511 villages, containing 897,880 plots and 236,283 tenancies. All survey work was completed before the close of the year 1893-94, and the attestation of the records then prepared, combined with the settlement of fair rents, has been proceeding during the past two years.

90. The following is a brief summary of the work done by Mr. Cumming, the Settlement Officer, during the past year. He was assisted during the field season by five Assistant Settlement Officers, and one of these remained on throughout the recess. His report is printed as Appendix X. Six boundary disputes were disposed of. No appeals have been lodged against any of the boundary disputes, 123 in number, which have been dealt with in the course of this settlement.

The records for 535 villages, covering 216·14 square miles, and containing 282,208 plots and 79,998 tenancies, were attested.

In 112 villages the records were wholly draft published, and in 118 only the raiyati khatians. The records for 97 villages were finally published.

Three hundred and eleven applications for the settlement of fair rents were dealt with and decided, and in the course of them the rents of 1,694 raiyats and 190 tenure-holders were settled, resulting in an enhancement of raiyati

rents from a total of Rs. 18,576 to a total of Rs. 22,813, and of tenure-holders rents from a total of Rs. 3,150 to a total of Rs. 5,716. The greater portion of the fair rent work was done by the Settlement Officer himself.

Two hundred and fifteen objections under section 105, and 15 disputes under section 106, were dealt with during the year.

91. The average outturn per mensem of attestation was 12,542 plots for each officer. Considering the obstructive and litigious character of the tenantry, this is very fair progress, and, as far as I have seen, this work has been well done. Mr. Cumming has issued a very complete manual of rules for his attestation officers, and has carefully supervised their proceedings throughout the year. At my instance some arrears were left over for completion in the present season, as I was of opinion that the work left, which was difficult and required special care, would be better done in the cold weather than in the heat of May. The Settlement Officer submits statistics of status, area, and rents for the attested villages, which show that over 88 per cent. of the tenancies are held by raiyats with settled and occupancy or occupancy rights, and that the incidence of rent per cultivated acre of their holdings is Rs. 3-11-2, and Rs. 3-2-2 per acre of their whole holdings. The figures given by the Settlement Officer of the average size of fields and villages are worthy of attention.

92. In paragraph 14 of his report the Settlement Officer has given a full account of the rents that have been settled by him and his officers in the past year. Applications have been put in by the landlord for the enhancement of the rents of 42 per cent. of the raiyats in the villages held khas, with the result that the rents of these raiyats have been raised by 22 per cent., and the total assets of the Raj in the villages concerned, by 13 per cent. The applications were keenly contested, and the enhancements were granted chiefly on the ground of excess area, and partly on the general ground of a rise in the price of food-grains. In the case of applications made for the enhancement of tenure-holders' rents, 200 of which were dealt with during the year, the enhancement has been 86 per cent., but Mr. Cumming has good grounds for this apparently heavy enhancement. He has given a brief account of some of them in his report.

93. It is a matter for serious regret that no progress has been made by the Special Judge, in the decision of the appeals that have been made to him. If only a few typical ones were disposed of, it is probable that the large majority of the remainder would be withdrawn or compromised, and that the litigation before the Settlement Officer would be very greatly reduced. But, as Mr. Cumming has remarked in his report, and has urged elsewhere, there is no hope of the parties coming to terms until the Special Judge has decided two or three important issues, which are similar in nearly all the cases, and on which there is much to be said both for and against the view taken by the lower court.

CHAURASI ESTATES IN THE 24-PARGANAS.

94. These estates are under settlement on the application of the proprietors, Maharaja Durga Charan Law and others, who have recently obtained possession of them. Survey and khanapuri were completed in the year 1894-95, and it was hoped that the operations would have been completed during the past year. They have not, however, been brought to a conclusion as yet, although attestation and the settlement of rents have been completed.

Babu Jotindra Nath Gupta, the Settlement Officer, who reverted to general duty during the recess months of the year 1894-95, returned to settlement work on the 2nd of November, and has been occupied in it up to the close of the past survey year.

His work was inspected by the Collector, Mr. Collin, in November 1895, and by Mr. Macpherson on the 8th of December 1895. In April 1896 the Settlement Officer visited me in Calcutta, and I discussed his work with him, inspected some of his registers and records, and gave him various instructions.

95. There has been much unnecessary delay in various stages of these operations, and the explanations which have been offered by the Settlement Officer do not satisfactorily account for the unnecessary protraction of the

attestation work, or for the most regrettable delay in taking up and disposing of the applications for settlement of rent. Attestation was commenced on the 2nd of November and lasted up to May 1st, during which time 60,832 plots and 14,045 tenancies were attested in the 50 villages, covering 33 square miles, which are comprised in the estate. Some difficulty and delay were caused by the apathy of some of the tenants and the obstruction of others.

96. In the case of 743 tenants, out of 794 holding directly from the proprietors, applications were made by the landlords for a settlement of rents. Six hundred and one of these applications were dealt with during the year, rents being raised from Rs. 16,208 to Rs. 22,554, or an enhancement of 39·15 per cent. The Settlement Officer's explanation of this heavy enhancement is neither very clear nor very satisfactory, but the Collector, Mr. Collin, himself a Settlement Officer of experience, has gone carefully into the question, and is of opinion that the enhancements are equitable, and that the tenants whose rents have been enhanced are substantial men, who are perfectly well able to look after themselves. The rents finally settled are, moreover, by no means excessive, and only one appeal has been filed against the Settlement Officer's decisions.

97. Special enquiries were also made both by Mr. Collin and myself into the record of the status of tenants by the Settlement Officer, and we found it necessary to amend his classification in some points, although we found that his record of a very large proportion of the cultivators as under-raiyats was correct.

98. There has been very little work under section 105, and no disputes have been filed under section 106. This may perhaps be held to indicate that attestation has been carefully done.

99. The fair-rent work has been completed since the close of the year, and the operations should now be brought to a speedy termination.

100. The cost of survey amounted to Rs. 8,212, and it is estimated that the settlement operations will cost Rs. 11,148, the total cost thus amounting to Rs. 19,360. This gives a rate of 15 annas 7 pies per acre for the whole operations, but this rate would undoubtedly have been lower had they been more expeditiously carried through.

TANTIBUNIA ESTATE IN KHULNA.

101. This is a Sundarbans estate, which has been temporarily settled on a lease running for 99 years from the year 1852, and its survey and the preparation of a record of rights for it were ordered on account of certain disputes between the landlords and tenants, described in paragraph 84 of Mr. Macpherson's report for 1894-95. The settlement work has been in charge of Babu Sarat Chandra Sen Gupta, Officiating Deputy Collector, from the 15th November, 1895, to the close of the year.

102. The survey and preliminary record-writing were completed in the year 1894-95, and it was anticipated that the whole proceedings would be brought to a close during the field season of 1895-96. There was some delay, however, in commencing attestation, and this work was not at first very vigorously prosecuted. The records were, however, completed and finally published before the close of the year under report.

103. The unhealthiness of the tract in which the estate is situated, the obstruction of some of the co-proprietors, and the apathy of the raiyats gave the Settlement Officer unusual trouble in carrying the work through.

104. The settlement is a very petty one, as the whole estate is contained in 8 villages, covering 19·95 square miles, and containing 4,440 plots and 1,210 tenancies. Out of 728 raiyats, 478 have been recorded as holding occupancy rights, and pay rent at the rate of Rs. 2-14 per cultivated acre, and 250 as non-occupancy raiyats. These latter are temporary and nomadic tenants, who change their lands year by year. They pay rent at an average rate of Rs. 4-15 per cultivated acre. The rents of 156 tenants were settled by the Settlement Officer on application by one or other of the parties to the rent contract, and their existing rents (Rs. 10,232) were raised to Rs. 13,075. Most of these tenants were substantial tenure-holders holding under leases providing for enhancement under certain conditions, and it was in accordance with the terms of those leases that

enhancements were made. Only three appeals have been lodged against the decisions of the Settlement Officer in these cases. There were 39 objections under section 105 and 35 formal disputes under section 106. Four appeals have been lodged against the decisions given by the Settlement Officer in the cases under the latter section.

105. The question of the apportionment and realisation of cost has not yet been decided, and the final report will be submitted as soon as orders on this subject are received. The cost of the settlement proceedings during the year amounted to Rs. 4,141. The work was inspected by me in April, 1896.

PRIVATE ESTATES IN BACKERGUNGE.

106. *The Ulania taluks.*—Settlement work had been completed in these taluks before the commencement of the year. The records have now been made over to the Collectorate, and further recoveries have been made of the cost of the operations.

107. *The Chiknikandi and Pankhali Haridebpur villages.*—These belong to the same proprietors, and have been brought under survey and settlement in consequence of the existence of serious disputes between the landlords and the tenantry. The Chiknikandi villages are 7 in number, and cover 5.43 square miles. They contain 3,320 plots and 1,043 tenancies. They were surveyed, and the initial records were written for them, in 1894-95. In the present year all the records have been attested, and those for 3 villages have been draft published. In the other 4 villages applications have been filed for the settlement of rents, which are hotly contested, and have not yet been disposed of. Eighteen boundary disputes, 143 objections, and 1 formal dispute under section 106 were disposed of in the course of the year.

The two villages of Pankhali and Haridebpur were notified for survey and settlement on 18th November 1895. They cover an area of 4.28 square miles. They were surveyed during the past year, and initial records have been prepared for them.

It is understood that a proposal is about to be submitted by the Collector for the survey and settlement of the remaining villages which are in the possession of these landlords. It would seem eminently desirable to settle them all, and thus put an end to many dangerous disputes for which there would seem to be no other effective remedy.

PALPARA ESTATE IN TIPPERA.

108. The settlement of this estate, comprised in 11 villages, with an area of 3.19 square miles, is being carried out by Mr. J. G. Cumming, the Settlement Officer of the Chakla Roshnabad estates in the same district, and his assistants. The survey was completed in 1893-94, and attestation in 1894-95. As the survey and the preparation of a record of rights were undertaken in order to settle a serious dispute between the landlords and tenants, much litigation was expected in our courts. The number of objections under section 105 and disputes under section 106 were, however, small, and the differences between landlords and tenants were dealt with in the course of the settlement of rents. Babu Bisesvar Bhattacharya ascertained, and settled as fair, the existing rents in the case of 269 tenants, and Mr. Cumming decided the 34 objections and 14 formal disputes that arose. Appeals have been lodged in no fewer than 234 of the cases under section 104, and none have yet been decided. The Settlement Officer has, however, proceeded under my orders to complete his records, and has finally published them all, and thus concluded the settlement.

The cost of this settlement has been Rs. 960 for survey, and Rs. 1,688 for settlement, or Rs. 2,648 in all. This gives a rate of Re. 1.4-8 per acre, but much of this heavy cost has already been recovered in the shape of court-fees, and is due to the protracted disputes between the landlords and their tenants.

GANGAMANDAL ESTATES IN TIPPERA.

109. The survey and the preparation of a record of rights in these estates, on the application of the landlords, are under the supervision of the Settlement Officer of the Chakla Roshnabad estates in the same district. They are

comprised in 3 villages, covering an area of 1.16 square miles. Survey and attestation were completed in previous years, and in the past year rents were settled and the records completed. Mr. Cumming dealt with 124 cases under section 104 and settled the existing rents as fair. These decisions have not yet been appealed against. In 44 cases the applications made by the landlords for a settlement of rents were dismissed by the Assistant Settlement Officer for good reasons, and all his decisions were appealed against. The Special Judge has now remanded these cases, by a decision on one of the appeals, for retrial. Only one objection under section 105 was filed, and there have been no disputes under section 106. The records of one of the villages was finally published during the year, and those of the other two villages have been finally published since its close. The total cost has been Rs. 1,006, which gives a rate of Re. 1-4-11, but much of the expenditure, which has been due to litigation, has been already recovered in court-fees.

TALUKA LAHIRI IN DARBHANGA.

110. Owing to the existence of serious disputes between the landlords of this estate and their tenants, its survey and the preparation of a record of rights for it were ordered in Government notifications Nos. 943T.R. and 4983L.R., dated 18th November 1895, published under section 101(2)(b) of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

The survey and record-writing were entrusted to Mr. C. S. Kraal, Assistant Superintendent of Survey, who was in charge of the survey camp at work in North Muzaffarpur, and a small party was deputed by him in March under Mr. E. F. Berkeley to take it up. The supervision of the work was handed over to Mr. Stevenson-Moore, Settlement Officer in North Behar, in addition to his other duties.

The whole of the estate, comprised in 14 villages, covering an area of 16.23 square miles, and containing 15,298 plots, was surveyed and khanapuried during the year. There were 640 disputes entered on the dispute lists, and 5 boundary disputes. The boundary disputes and 69 of the other disputes were disposed of by Mr. R. B. Hughes, and the remaining disputes were dealt with by Babu Makhan Lal Chatterji. These two officers were working as Assistant Settlement Officers in Muzaffarpur, and were specially deputed temporarily to taluka Lahiri during the progress of khanapuri.

The records will be attested, and will probably be completed, during the current year.

CHAPTER IV.

WARDS' ESTATES.

BURDWAN RAJ KHAS MAHALS.

111. The following table shows the state of work on the first day of the year under report:—

Total number of villages in Burdwan, Hooghly, and Bankura (revised figures).	Number of villages in Bankura to be excluded.	ATTESTATION.		DRAFT PUBLICA- TION.		FINAL PUBLICA- TION.		SECTION 105 CASES.		SECTION 106 CASES.	
		Done.	Remaining.	Done.	Remaining.	Done.	Remaining.	Done.	Remaining.	Done.	Remain- ing.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
192	28	152	12	152	12	144	20	2,220	59	43	3

The 28 villages in Bankura referred to above were surveyed some five or six seasons ago, but, mainly on financial grounds, were excluded from settlement operations during the year, under Government Notification No. 580T.R., dated the 19th June 1896. To the work shown above as pending on 1st October 1895 were added 4 co-parcenary villages, in which attestation had to be done *de novo*, owing to the issue of Government Notification No. 1051L.R., dated

the 25th February 1896, under section 101(2) (a), in place of the one issued in November 1891, under section 101(2) (c). Ninety-eight cases under section 105, and 1 case under section 106, were instituted during the year, thus making the total number of cases for disposal during the year 157 and 4 respectively. The above items of work were finished by the Settlement Officer before the 1st October 1896, and 44 cases under section 104, affecting one village with 60 tenants, were also disposed of, resulting in an increase of rental from Rs. 705 to Rs. 729, or by 3 per cent.

I inspected the settlement office on the 13th September 1896, and arranged with Babu Sukumar Haldar, the Settlement Officer, for completion of all remaining work and the winding up of the operations by the end of the year. This arrangement was carried out by the Settlement Officer, who has since submitted his completion report and reverted to general duty.

The expenditure incurred on settlement during the year was Rs. 10,575. The total settlement cost, exclusive of survey, from the beginning has been Rs. 51,641.

WARDS' ESTATES IN BACKERGUNGE.

112. *Dakhin Shakhbazpur estates*.—A full account of this settlement was given in paragraph 92 of the Annual Report of 1894-95. The final report has been submitted, but I have not yet reviewed it, as I am awaiting the receipt of the Commissioner's and Collector's comments on it. Out of a recoverable expenditure of Rs. 77,962, the sum of Rs. 35,501 was recovered in 1894-95, and a further sum of Rs. 24,927 has been recovered in the past year. It is reported that certificates have been issued for the balance (Rs. 17,534) still due.

113. *Srirampur estate*.—This estate is comprised in nine villages, covering an area of 9·13 square miles. Survey and attestation were completed in previous years, and the only work done in the past year was the final publication of the records after the trial of a few disputes, the apportionment of the cost, and the recovery of Rs. 2,472 of it. The records will now be handed over to the Collectorate and the final report submitted.

THE TIKARI WARD'S ESTATE AND GOVERNMENT ESTATES IN GAYA.

114. As noted in Chapter II, paragraph 57, I propose to deal with all the operations in the Gaya district together, as the Settlement Officer has treated of them all in one report.

The three separate collections of villages under settlement in Gaya are—

- (1) 552 villages of the Tikari ward's estate, in which the ward holds a share of 8 annas or more, covering an area of 384·63 square miles.
- (2) 118 Government villages, covering an area of 102 square miles.
- (3) 89 villages belonging to the Balkhara estate, which is partly the property of Government and partly that of the Tikari ward, covering an area of 97·28 square miles.

Babu Annada Charan Gupta was Assistant Settlement Officer in subordinate charge of the operations throughout the year. He was assisted by two other Assistant Settlement Officers during the field season.

The work is under the general supervision of the Settlement Officer of Muzaffarpur, who paid five visits to the district in the course of the year. Mr. Stevenson-Moore has submitted an interesting report.

115. Seventy-seven of the villages of the Balkhara mahal and 10 Government villages were under survey and khanapuri during the year. They were dealt with early in the season by a small survey party under Mr. G. T. Hall, Assistant Superintendent of Survey, who worked with care and energy, as in previous seasons. One of these Government villages was attested in the course of the year, and the others, and those of the Balkhara mahal, will be attested during the present field season. Much delay and difficulty were caused during the record-writing by the agents of Mr. Solano, the present landlord in the Balkhara mahal, in fear of whom the cultivators would not come forward to claim their fields. The serious difficulties occasioned by the unjustifiable action of these men have only been lightly touched on in the Settlement Officer's report.

The work on boundary disputes was exceptionally heavy, and was creditably done by the Assistant Settlement Officer in charge. He dealt with 148 such disputes, and in all the 8 appeals lodged against his orders, those orders were upheld.

The attestation of 109 Government villages and 107 belonging to the Tikari ward was carried out by the two subordinate Assistant Settlement Officers. The difficulties met with in attestation work in Gaya were referred to in last year's report.

The villages were very scattered, and there were some special difficulties in the Government villages, but the work was got through without undue delay.

The chief work of the year was the determination of the principles to be followed in settling rents in the Government villages, and the settlement of those rents. In the case of 37 villages the settlement included the commutation of produce rents into cash rents. The Settlement Officer has accurately reproduced in his report, Appendix IX (iv), the general lines on which this work is being carried out, and I need not recapitulate them here. Rents were settled for 2,853 tenants in 88 villages, and were raised from Rs. 44,412 to Rs. 48,423, an enhancement of 9 per cent. The details of the enhancement are given in a statement attached to the report. It was mainly due to a general enhancement of two annas in the rupee made in certain Government estates. It is very satisfactory to note that 2,831 of the tenants out of a total of 2,853 actually came before the Settlement Officer and accepted the proposed rents. The rents of the remaining tenants were settled *ex parte*. Before leaving this subject I may note that I pressed on the Collector very strongly the necessity for securing the raiyats against neglect of the irrigation works now kept up by the landlord, after the commutation of produce-rents had been made. Mr. Savage, in dealing with my suggestions, has remarked:—

“In this connection Mr. Lyon asked if Government would give any formal guarantee for maintenance of irrigation works. My reply was that I did not think Government should be called on for any formal agreement on the subject, but might be relied upon to keep up and improve the irrigation works in future for all the lands in these estates to at least as great an extent as it has done in the past. Of course, if at any future time Government should decide to sell its right in these estates, the purchaser should be bound by regular agreement to keep up irrigation works, but arrangements as to this may, I think, be left over till such time as Government entertains the idea of disposing of the *malikis*.”

I hope that this point will not be lost sight of, and that the most careful arrangements may be made to keep up the present irrigation system both now and when, if ever, Government disposes of these properties.

The Settlement Officer forwards interesting statistics of status, rents, area, crops, irrigation, and transfers. It would have been well if he had reproduced the similar figures given last year, both for comparison and that we might gauge the effect of the totals. Unfortunately also it has not been possible to give the figures of status and rents for the Government villages, which would have been valuable for comparison with those of the Tikari ward's estate. Next year we should have statistics for the whole area, which will be well worth consideration.

The statistics of irrigation appear to me to be of doubtful accuracy, the areas entered as irrigated ‘from private canals’ and from ‘other sources’ being most suspiciously high. The original entries from which these figures are taken should be again checked. Rice is by far the most important crop grown in the Gaya district.

NARHAN WARD'S ESTATES IN MONGHYR.

116. The Court of Wards found it necessary to apply for a survey and the preparation of a record of rights in these estates, owing to there being some confusion in the landlord's papers, giving rise to difficulties in ascertaining the extent of the ward's rights in the various estates belonging to him and in the realisation of his rents. The operations are covered by Notification No. 814 T. R., dated 25th October 1895. The survey and initial record-writing were carried out by a professional party under Mr. G. T. Hall, Assistant Superintendent of Survey, and the supervision of the settlement work was entrusted to Mr. C. J. Stevenson-Moore, c.s., Settlement Officer in North Bihar.

The operations began in March and lasted until the end of June. The records prepared in the field have all been handed over to the Settlement Department, to be attested in the current season. The work was confined to those villages in which the ward held a share of eight annas or more, and some difficulty was experienced in identifying these villages. They were eventually found to be 66 in number, and to cover 53·75 square miles. They have been surveyed in 69,436 plots.

Babu Atul Chandra Ker, Officiating Deputy Collector, was gazetted as an Assistant Settlement Officer for the subordinate control of the work. He was engaged on it from the 14th of March to the end of June, during which time he inspected the record-writing in 53 villages, decided 78 boundary disputes and 628 other disputes, and made various enquiries as to the extent of the ward's proprietary rights.

The cost to the Settlement Department during the year was Rs. 2,144.

CHAPTER V.

MAINTENANCE OF SETTLEMENT RECORDS.

117. Rules for the working of Act III (B.C.) of 1895 were published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 16th October 1895. The Land Records Maintenance Act has been brought into operation in the thanas of Hajipur in Muzaffarpur, and Bettiah in Champaran, and its further extension to other parts of North Bihar has been postponed pending the receipt of information as to the success of its working. The Sub-Registrars of Hajipur and Bettiah have been appointed by Government order No. 1800P., dated 29th May 1896, as Registrars of Mutations under the Act on Rs. 75 each per mensem, and mutation registers, &c., for 305 villages in Bettiah, and for 434 villages in Hajipur, have been made over by the Settlement Officer to enable the Sub-Registrars to begin their work. Printed notices in English and the vernacular have been distributed to the public, containing a statement of the duties imposed on zamindars, tenureholders, and raiyats by Act III (B.C.) of 1895.

118. Under the Board's circular No. 10 of May 1896, the quarterly returns of mutations of tenant right in Government and Wards' estates were changed to half-yearly returns, and forms prescribed for their submission showing (i) mutations of names on account of transfers by inheritance, sale, or partition of holdings, (ii) re-settlement of tenancies belonging (1) to deceased tenants, (2) to absconded tenants, (3) to tenants who have formally abandoned their tenancies, and (iii) new settlements of waste lands. In this office circular No. 2789-92S., dated 19th September 1895, specific instructions are given to the officers concerned for the preparation and submission of their returns.

119. In the following paragraphs the correspondence of the year relating to the maintenance of land records in particular tracts will be reviewed, and the returns of mutation of tenant rights, which have been received from some estates in response to this office circular No. 2789-92S., dated 19th September 1895, asking for the submission of half-yearly returns, will be noticed.

TEMPORARILY-SETTLED TRACTS AND GOVERNMENT ESTATES.

Orissa Temporarily-settled Estates—Area about 5,000 square miles.

120. The question of the maintenance of records of the new settlement of Orissa is still under the consideration of Government, and I am about to submit a detailed scheme showing the cost that will be involved in the establishment of a system of maintenance by patwaris, and other local officers, in the villages themselves. It is perhaps doubtful whether the extra cost involved in such a scheme is justified by the work to be done by the patwaris.

KHURDA.

121. In paragraph 105 of the report of this Department for the year ending 30th September 1895, it was stated that out of 795 sarbarahkars or their substitutes who passed through a course of training in the survey training schools which were opened on the estate, 689 had passed the examination. A school was re-opened for the completion of the tuition of 200

sarbarahkars who had not passed. It appears that 78 of these men subsequently qualified themselves during the year under report. The rules which were drawn up by Mr. H. McPherson for the correction of the records by the sarbarahkars were kept in abeyance, as the sarbarahkars were engaged under the orders conveyed in Government letter No. 935T.R., dated the 17th November 1895, in completely revising the old maps and in writing new khasras and khatians.

Returns for the half-year ending 31st March 1896 shows the following mutations:—

		Number of new rai-yats.	Total area in acres.	Total rent settled.	
				Rs.	A. P.
By sale	...	1,639	1,280·453	1,732	0 2
,, inheritance	...	117	696·242	860	15 7

The return of new settlements of abandoned holdings or waste lands shows that 464 fields, covering an area of 410 acres, with a total rental of Rs. 416, were settled among 213 tenants.

Cuttack Town khas mahals—Settled in 1875; number of tenancies about 3,800.

122. The fresh survey of the Cuttack town khas mahals was sanctioned by Government in 1892. It was decided that the survey should be made under Act V (B.C.), 1875, which is applicable to mufassal towns, and that a record of rights could not be prepared under the Tenancy Act, as the holdings are almost all non-agricultural. The settlement is being based on mutual agreement. It was therefore arranged that the Collector was to record all the particulars which might appear necessary, and settle the non-agricultural rents without formal proceedings under the Tenancy Act. The survey and record-writing were completed in 1893, and the lands of the khas mahal were found to measure 695 acres, contained in 17,756 plots. The Commissioner of Orissa in his letter No. 1428, dated 29th September 1896, has reported that the preliminary rate report is ready, and that little remains to wind up the settlement. No mutations returns were received during the year.

Angul Government estate, Orissa Division—Settled in 1886—92; area 639 square miles (excluding 277 square miles of forest reserve), of which 144,812 acres were cultivated at the time of settlement; 628 villages; 30,396 rent-paying tenants; 350,000 khasra numbers.

123. In continuation of paragraph 107 of last year's report, the following summary is given of the action taken during the year towards the maintenance of settlement records in the Angul estate:—

A set of rules was framed by the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. H. P. Wyllly, and these were submitted to the Board with Mr. Macpherson's suggestions, and were generally approved in Board's No. 24A., dated 8th January 1896. The rules were then finally framed in consultation with the Commissioner of the Division, and were submitted to the Board in this office letter No. 957S., dated 4th April 1896. The Board sanctioned the rules in their letter No. 532A., dated 20th April 1896. In addition to the existing staff of kanungoes, an establishment of two muharrirs on Rs. 20 each a month and five chainmen on Rs. 6 each was sanctioned in Government letter No. 386L.R., dated the 24th January 1896, in connection with the maintenance of the settlement records.

The returns for the half-year ending March 1896 show the following result:—

Nature of cases.	Number of tenancies affected.	Total area in acres affected.
Mutation by sale, partition, inheritance, &c. ...	251	1,071·45
Resettlements ...	30	32·34
Settlement of waste lands ...	119	353·42

Chittagong temporarily-settled estates—Area 1905·59 square miles.

124. No scheme for the maintenance of the records of the new settlement in Chittagong has been proposed, and it is not clear that any is required. The khas tahsildars have instructions to report new cultivation in unsettled lands, and to record mutations in the names of talukdars, jotedars, and others who pay direct to Government. It is clear that the tenants in Chittagong do not as a body require any protection from their landlords, and many of the arguments for the maintenance of the record, which are used elsewhere, are consequently inapplicable.

Majnamutha Estate under Government management in Midnapore—Area 194 square miles; 915 villages; 44,000 holdings.

125. The last settlement of Majnamutha was made in 1877, and it will expire in September 1899. Mutations in the recorded entries were at first maintained by muharrirs, paid from the fees levied for recording such mutations. This system was not, however, found to work satisfactorily, and as difficulty had arisen in the realization of arrears of rent, it was thought necessary to have the rent-rolls corrected. Mr. Macpherson went to Contai early in 1895 and discussed the matter with the local officers, and recommended, in paragraph 48 of his note dated 23rd April 1895, that a "test survey should probably be made in the field season of 1896-97 for the purpose of ascertaining whether the maps of the last settlement should be revised, or whether new maps and records or a fresh survey should be made in 1897-98, and the resettlement should be made in 1898-99." As nothing could be done in the way of keeping the records up to date in their present condition, the Board, in their letter No. 548A., dated 4th July 1896, recommended that the test survey be undertaken, and the Government, in their letter No. 3033L.R., dated 7th August 1896, has sanctioned the proposal. The Commissioner and Collector have been asked to report on the arrangements to be made to carry out the test survey.

Backergunge Government estates and private estates under direct management—Area 155,000 acres.

126. These estates have for the most part been surveyed and settled within recent years. My predecessor, Mr. Macpherson, submitted to the Board a special report in his No. 2794S., dated 11th September 1895, on the subject of the maintenance of the maps and rent-rolls for these estates, and the Board decided in accordance with his recommendation that the provisions of Act III (B.C.) of 1895 should not be extended to this district. The Board agreed that tahsildars may be safely trusted with the duty of recording mutations, and they approved of the method suggested for checking the corrections and of the khasra form suggested for the use of these officers.

Only twenty-four mutations of tenant-rights were recorded on these estates in the half-year ending 31st March 1896, of which 21 were by purchase and the rest by inheritance. The Collector reports that the return is not a full statement of actual transfers, as the great majority of transfers have not as yet been registered.

Western Duars Government estate—Area settled in 1888—94,387 acres; number of jotedars, 23,339; number of chukanidars, 11,176.

127. The rules for the registration of mutations, which were framed in 1895, have been in force throughout the year, and the consolidated returns for the financial year 1895-96 show the following figures:—

Serial No.	Nature of cases.	Pending from the previous year.	Instituted during the year.	Total for disposal.	Disposed of during the year.	Pending at the close of the year.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	New settlement of jotes under the arable waste land rules.	452	1,637	2,089	1,351	738
2	Mutation cases ...	260	869	1,129	719	410

There has been some correspondence during the year on the subject of the court-fees to be levied under the rules.

Banki Government Estate—Area 117 square miles; surveyed and settled in 1888—92; 26,478 rent-paying tenancies at the time of settlement; number of fields, 115,775.

128. On the recommendation of the Commissioner and Mr. Macpherson, the rules prescribed for the maintenance of records in the Angul estate were introduced into this estate with such modifications as were necessary to adapt them to the customs prevailing in this estate. An establishment of amins and kanungos, and an Inspector for supervising and testing the work in 73 sarbarahkari circles, and for dealing with returns, was sanctioned. Sanction was also accorded to the recognition of partitions of holdings, and to the levy of a fee of 2 annas for such partitions. Sarbarahkars were deprived of their power to issue permits for the cultivation of waste lands, as they were reported to have abused the power given them; but they were allowed to enjoy the income derived from these new settlements.

The work of registering mutations cannot be said to have been fairly started during the year under report. Mutation returns were received for the half-years ending 30th September 1895 and 31st March 1896. They show the transfer by sale of 97 holdings, with an area of 116.29 acres, among 115 new raiyats, and the settlement of 246.13 acres of waste lands and deserted holding, at a total rental of Rs. 77-3-8.

WARDS' ESTATES.

BURDWAN RAJ ESTATES.

129. Abstract returns of mutations of names on account of transfer of holding of the Burdwan Raj estates for the half-year ending 31st March 1896 have been received during the year. They include the khas mahals of the four districts of Burdwan, Bankura, Birbhum, and Hooghly, separate returns being made for the Sujamutha and Kujong estates, which are under the managing charge of the Collectors of Midnapore and Cuttack respectively. These returns show 50 transfers of occupancy rights, comprising 683 bighas with a total rent of Rs. 520. Two hundred and seventy-one abandoned plots or waste land, containing 766 bighas, were settled with 111 tenants at a lump rental of Rs. 555. It seems probable that the figures given in the returns are not complete.

Sujamutha Ward's Estate; area about 29,000 acres; surveyed and settled in 1889—93; number of tenancies about 10,000.

130. During the year under review the Land Records Maintenance Act, III (B.C.) of 1895, was extended to the Sujamutha estate by Government order No. 626 T.R. of the 23rd June 1896. A draft notification under section 1 (2) of the Act has since been submitted to the Board, for publication in the Gazettes to give effect to this order.

Maldwar Ward's Estate; area 145.4 square miles; surveyed in 1888—90; number of tenancies then recorded, 23,019.

131. The returns of mutation received for this estate during the year under review shew very little work done and appear to indicate that little has been done to give effect to the recommendations made by Mr. Macpherson in paragraph 7 of his letter No. 3715S., dated 3rd November 1894, for the reorganisation of the system of recording mutations and for the submission of periodical statements to the Director. The latest correspondence on the subject shows that copies of the traces and the khasras have not yet been prepared, and that the establishments of munsarim patwaris, sanctioned by the Board in their letters No. 40A., dated 27th January 1894, and No. 1817A., dated 26th November 1894, have not been fully utilised. On the recommendation of the Commissioner, the Collector of Dinajpur has been advised to have the khasras revised or re-written from time to time with reference to the facts which the patwaris ascertain on the ground.

Sankerpur Ward Estate; area settled in 1887—90, 90,246 square miles; number of tenancies nearly 33,000.

132. In Mr. Macpherson's letter No. 3715S., dated 3rd November 1894, the lines on which the work of the maintenance of the record of rights in Sankerpur was to be carried out were indicated, and these were approved in the Board's order No. 1817A., dated 26th November 1894. Little, however, could be done in the way of giving effect to the instructions, as it was reported that the estate was going to be released from the Court of Wards in May 1895. As a result of further correspondence which has passed between me and the Commissioner of the Rajshahi Division, it has been decided that, in view of the fact that the estate will go out of our hands as soon as the certificate of administration is obtained from the High Court by the proprietors, it is too late to attempt to bring the mutation registers up to date, and hence the submission of mutation returns has not been enforced.

Dakhin Shahbazpur Ward's Estate. Area 146 square miles. Settlement completed in 1895-96. Number of tenancies about 30,000. Number of plots 175,000.

133. In letter No. 1506A., dated 9th November 1895, the Board have approved the following action in the direction of the maintenance of the maps and settlement records of the Dakhin Shahbazpur estate in Backergunge:—

- (1) Copies of the village maps are to be furnished to the manager of estate No. 1763, which is under the Court of Wards.
- (2) The working rent-roll of the estate, prepared from the settlement papers, is to be maintained so far as regards the tenants with whom the Court of Wards is in direct relation.
- (3) A field-to-field check of the principal entries made in the khasra is to be made in all the 37 villages of the estate by the present establishment.
- (4) Notes of mutations are to be entered in registers.

An instructor in survey, on Rs. 40 a month, to teach the tahsildars, has been appointed by the Commissioner, and the Collector has been authorised to appoint two amins on Rs. 20 each per mensem for three months, and three peons on Rs. 6, to assist the kanungo both in the work of instruction and in diluvion enquiries. Arrangements have also been made to photozincograph the village maps, and to supply the Collector and Manager with the copies thus made.

The work for the maintenance of the survey and settlement records will now be commenced, and the half-yearly returns duly submitted.

Sarail Ward's Estate in Tippera—Area 277 square miles; survey and record of rights made in 1889—92; number of holdings 66,197.

134. The settlement proceedings in pargana Sarail were concluded in 1892, and the final report was submitted to the Board in December 1893. The new jamabandi was to take effect from 1300B.S. (1893-94), but some difficulty having been found in enforcing it, and errors having been noticed in the system of attestation, Babu Kali Sankar Sen, the late Settlement Officer, was again deputed to correct the records in February 1894. Down to the 30th September 1896 the records for 62,263 holdings were revised, and the rental reduced from Rs. 2,37,821 to Rs. 2,06,588. The reduced rental still exceeds the rental before settlement by Rs. 17,392. Babu Kali Sankar Sen reverted to general duty after the 31st March 1896, and the work of revision is being conducted by the Sub-Manager of the Estate, under the immediate supervision of the Collector of Tippera.

The total expenditure on survey and settlement has been Rs. 1,87,518, including the cost of revision up to the 31st March 1896, which amounted to Rs. 34,383. The revision establishment having been abolished from the 1st April 1896, no further expenditure was incurred under this head within the year.

Kujong estate in Cuttack—area 229 square miles; surveyed and settled in 1889–92; number of tenancies about 29,000, exclusive of undar-raiyats; total number of fields 164,082.

135. Arrangements for the proper maintenance of the mutation registers in this estate have been made, and complete copies of settlement khasras and maps have been supplied to the tahsildars, to enable them to note changes in tenants' rights in the course of the collections. No returns have yet been received of the mutations in the names of tenants either by sale or inheritance, or in the settlement of waste lands in the estate effected during the year, and their punctual submission will be requested in future.

Kanika Estate in Cuttack. Area cadastrally surveyed, 278 square miles, surveyed and settled in 1889-94.

136. On the recommendations of the Collector and the Commissioner, the Board decided that Mr. Sakhawat Hossein, Manager of the Kanika Estate, should not be transferred to the regular line until his scheme for making collections and maintaining records in the estate had been fairly started and worked for a time. The Manager was asked to draw up rules for the maintenance of records in accordance with rules drawn up for the Angul estate. The scheme prepared by him, which is in conformity with the principles embodied in Act III (B.C.) of 1895, and which was provisionally approved by the Board, is different from the procedure followed in Angul and Banki. In Angul the sarbarahkars take notes of the transfers, and the office records are corrected accordingly; in Kanika the tenants are expected to register transfers and successions. In Angul no fees are realised; in Kanika fees are realised. The Manager's scheme has been tried for the last two years, and he has submitted a report on its working, which is still under consideration. The mutations registered and the fees paid during the years 1894-95 and 1895-96 are shown below:—

	Transfers by sale.		Transfers by inheritance.		Partitions.	
	1894-95.	1895-96.	1894-95.	1895-96.	1894-95.	1895-96.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Number. ...	783*	471	221	867	Nil.	3
Area ...	1,160·65	718·43	1,328·85	3,855·09	Nil.	5 57
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.
Fees paid ...	241 2 0	135 14 0	125 2 0	428 14 0	Nil.	1 0 0

* Includes some transfers made, but not registered, in 1893-94.

The Manager reports that all transfers by sale have been duly registered, and that they have to be so registered both according to law and custom. Transfers by gift are rare, and partitions are seldom effected. But, as regards transfers by succession, the local officers are of opinion that they will not in all cases be voluntarily registered.

CHAPTER VI.

MAINTENANCE OF BOUNDARY MARKS.

137. There has been some correspondence during the year on this subject, and reports have been called for and submitted, showing how far permanent boundary marks set up in recent years have been removed. No further orders have, however, been received on the subject of legislation or rules for their better preservation, and, pending the issue of some such orders, no action has been taken to enforce the existing rules for their inspection and protection, contained in Chapter IV, Part II of the Survey and Settlement Manual.

CHAPTER VII.

TOURS OF DIRECTOR AND NOTICE OF OFFICERS.

138. Mr. W. C. Macpherson, c.s., was in charge of the Department up to the 22nd February, when he went on furlough, and I was appointed to officiate in his place. Before Mr. Macpherson went on leave he went on the following tours:—

From November 13th to November 18th he accompanied Sir Edward Buck to Darjeeling to discuss with him matters connected with agricultural education and the Agricultural Conference that was subsequently held in Calcutta.

From November 18th to November 25th he was on tour in Bihar, visiting Muzaffarpur, Bankipore, and Arrah on inspection duty.

On December 8th he inspected the settlement operations in taraf Chaurasi, in the 24-Parganas.

On December 20th and 21st and from December 26th to December 30th an inspection was made of the settlement work in the Darjeeling Terai.

From January 9th to February 2nd 1896 a lengthy tour was made in Orissa, in the course of which Mr. Macpherson visited Balasore, Bhadrak, Cuttack, and Khurda, and inspected much of the settlement work in the field.

Mr. Macpherson's tours were much interfered with during the cold weather by work in connection with the Agricultural Conference.

After taking over charge of the Directorship I made the following tours:—

From March 14th to April 3rd I accompanied the Senior Member of the Board of Revenue (the Hon'ble Mr. C. C. Stevens, c.s.i.) on a tour in Orissa, during which we visited Cuttack, Khurda, Sardaipur, Bhadrak, and Balasore, and framed rules for the settlement of rents in consultation with the Settlement Officer on the spot.

From April 11th to April 15th I went on tour to Midnapore to inspect the work going on in the Pataspur estates, and to arrange for its completion.

From April 19th to April 27th I was on tour in Tippera and Khulna inspecting settlement work.

On April 28th to 30th I visited Khanjanpur in Bogra, to inspect the settlement operations in the Jaipur Government estates.

From June 19th to 21st I was at Siliguri, inspecting the work in the Darjeeling Terai.

From June 23rd to July 7th I paid a second visit to Orissa, visiting Cuttack and Jajpur.

From July 9th to July 30th I was at Muzaffarpur. I had intended, after meeting His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at Muzaffarpur, to make an extended tour in Bihar, including visits to Motihari, Siwan, Bankipore, Gaya, and Arrah, but was unfortunately prevented by an attack of fever from carrying out my plans. I was able, however, to see much of the Bihar work at Muzaffarpur, and to meet several of the Assistant Settlement Officers there.

From August 13th to 23rd I was on tour in Chittagong, Tippera, and Backergunge, inspecting settlement work.

From August 27th to September 11th I paid a third visit to Orissa, visiting Cuttack and Bhadrak and inspecting some of the settlement camps.

From September 12th to September 17th I was on tour in Burdwan and Shahabad, visiting the Burdwan experimental farm and inspecting settlement work at both Burdwan and Arrah.

During the year under report Mr. Macpherson and I travelled 3,791 miles by steamer and canal, 4,955 miles by rail, and 436 miles by road, or 9,182 miles in all, exclusive of the journeys made to Darjeeling during the hot weather and the rains, which would add about 1,500 more miles by rail.

139. The following Settlement and Assistant Settlement Officers rendered good service in the year under report:—Messrs.

Services of officers. Allen, Colvin, Cumming, Gauntlett, Hughes, Kerr, Kingsford, Maddox, Roe, Stevenson-Moore, Thomson, and Webster, Mr. J. Taylor, Babu Sri Gopal Bhattacharya, Babu Haris Chandra Rai, Babu Prasanna Kumar Banerji, Babu Hara Krishna Mahanti, Babu Jogendra Narayan Mitra, Babu Durga Charan Ghose, Babu Giris Chandra Dutt, Babu Sasi Bhusan Dutt, Babu Siva Sunker Singh, Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta, Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur, Pandit Rama Ballabh Misra, Maulvi Gholam Ghaus.

It would be difficult for me to speak too highly of the admirable work that is being done by Mr. Maddox in Orissa. Mr. Stevenson-Moore has acquired a complete grasp of the needs of the settlement operations in North Bihar, and has submitted some admirable reports in connection with them in the course of the year. Mr. Cumming's thorough and careful work in Tippera is deserving of special notice, and Mr. Hughes has distinguished himself in Muzaffarpur by his indefatigable and intelligent supervision of a large staff of subordinates. Mr. Gauntlett in the supervision of khanapuri work in Saran, Mr. Kerr as Assistant Settlement Officer in charge in Motihari, Babu Prasanna Kumar Banerji in assessment work in Balasore, Babu Giris Chandra Dutt in his conduct of the operations in the Pataspur estate, Babu Siva Sanker Singh in recovery work in North Bihar, and Maulvi Gholam Ghaus in case-work in Saran, also rendered services of especial note.

Mr. W. R. Bright continued to help the department with his careful supervision of settlement work in Midnapore, and Mr. Savage assisted us materially in Gaya. Captain Crichton, Superintendent of Settlement Surveys in Bengal, has, as in previous years, kept himself in touch with all the requirements of good record-writing, and has cordially co-operated with the Director of Land Records in all matters affecting his own department. Mr. E. Macnaghten has continued to give us valuable assistance as Secretary to the Bihar Indigo Planters' Association and has much facilitated the progress of the work.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

P. C. LYON,

*Offg. Director of the Department of Land Records and
Agriculture, Bengal.*

APPENDICES.

Showing progress made in the settlements under the control of the Director of Land

DIVISION.	District.	Name of estate or tract under settlement.	Estimated area in square miles under settlement of revenue or rents.	Total number of villages.	AREA CADASTRAALLY SURVEYED IN SQUARE MILES.			NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN PREPARED FOR ATTESTATION—		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH ATTESTATION HAS BEEN COMPLETED—	
					Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Total area surveyed.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

Temporarily-settled tracts

<i>Major settlements.</i>											
Orissa	Cuttack ...	All temporarily-settled and 5 permanently-settled estates.	2,273'38	4,923	2,273'38	.....	2,273'38	4,923	...	3,876	1,028
	Balasore ...	Temporarily-settled estates.	1,733'11	3,736	1,733'11	.....	1,733'11	3,736	...	3,050	686
	Puri ...	Temporarily-settled estates and Ekraja lands.	1,089'04	2,098	1,089'04	.....	1,089'04	2,098	...	1,980	78
	Do. ...	Khurd Government estate.	913'00	1,342	.....	913'00	913'00	...	1,342	...	48
Chittagong...	Chittagong ...	Chittagong district ...	1,910'01	1,039	1,910'01	.....	1,910'01	1,039	...	1,039	...
Chota Nagpur	Palamau ...	Government estates ...	(a) 294'00	400	293'00	1'00	294'00	399	1	399	1
Rajshahi ...	Darjeeling ...	Darjeeling Terai jotes and 30-year lease grants.	230'37	946	208'67	21'70	230'37	...	946	...	943
<i>Minor settlements.</i>											
Burdwan ...	Midnapur ...	Pataspur temporarily-settled estates.	54'70	96	54'70	.....	54'70	96	...	96	...
Rajshahi ...	Bogra ...	Jaipur Government estates.	55'50	156	55'50	.....	55'50	(c) 156	(c) ...	11	110
Dacca ...	Backergunge ...	Government estates ...	67'69	33	64'02	3'67	67'69	32	1	4	28
Patna ...	Gaya ...	Ditto ...	192'00	118	88'00	14'00	102'00	108	10	...	109
	Shahabad ...	Ditto ...	18'75	20	18'14	'61	18'75	19	1	...	20
Total temporarily-settled tracts and Government estates...			8,741'55	14,907	7,787'57	953'98	8,741'55	12,606	2,301	10,455	3,051

Private

			Major operations.											
Patna	{	Muzaffarpur	...	Muzaffarpur district	...	3,054'09	4,500	2,609'00	445'09	3,054'09	4,061	439	2,393	1,633
		Champaran	...	Champaran ditto	...	3,265'00	2,801	2,089'00	1,185'00	3,265'00	1,754	1,047	679	1,075
		Saran	...	Saran ditto	...	2,622'00	4,296	528'00	663'00	1,196'00	1,208	1,235	1,208	...
Chittagong	...	Tippera	...	Chakla Roshnabad	...	555'65	1,511	555'64	'01	555'65	1,510	1	336	535
				Minor operations.										
Presidency	{	24 Parganas	...	Chaurasi	...	33'00	50	33'00	.....	33'00	...	50	...	50
		Khulna	...	Tantibunia	...	19'95	8	19'95	.....	19'95	...	8	...	8
Dacca	...	Backergunge	...	Chiknikandi and Pan-	...	9'71	9	5'43	4'28	9'71	7	2	...	7
Chittagong	{		...	khali Haridebpur.	...									
		Tippera	...	Palpara	...	3'19	11	3'19	.....	3'19	11	...	11	...
		Darbhangha	...	Gangamandal	...	1'16	3	1'16	.....	1'16	3	...	3	...
			...	Taluka Lahiri	...	16'23	14	.....	16'23	16'23	...	14	...	...
Total Private estates						9,579'98	13,203	5,835'37	2,318'61	8,153'98	8,554	2,796	4,630	3,308

Wards'

Burdwan ...	Burdwan ...	Burdwan Raj khas mahals.	130'00	192	130'00	.....	130'00	192	...	152	(e) 12
	Hooghly ...		146'58	47	146'58	.....	146'58	47	...	47	...
Dacca ...	Backergunge ...	Dakhin Shahbazpur ...	9'13	9	9'13	.....	9'13	9	...	9	...
Patna ...	Gaya and Patna ...	Srirampur ...	481'91	641	396'41	85'50	481'91	564	77	441	107
Bhagalpur ...	Monghyr ...	Tikari and Balkhara ...	53'75	66	...	53'75	53'75	...	66	...	...
Total Wards' estates ...			821'37	955	682'12	139'25	821'37	812	143	649	119

(a) This includes 11 square miles.

(b) This includes 292 rent-free.

(c) The khanapuri being found.

(d) Of these 118 were partly

(e) 28 villages were excluded.

(f) 4 villages had to be done

N.B.—The figures in this statement which do not agree

DIX I.

Records and Agriculture, Bengal, during the year ending 30th September 1896.

NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH THE DRAFT RECORD-OF-RIGHTS HAS BEEN PUBLISHED UNDER SECTION 105 (1) OF THE TENANCY ACT—		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH THE FINAL RECORD-OF-RIGHTS HAS BEEN PUBLISHED UNDER SECTION 105 (2) OF THE TENANCY ACT—		Estimated number of tenants in the villages in column 6.	Number of tenants whose rent has been recorded and status determined in khatahs finally published under section 105 (2) of the Tenancy Act or under the law which governs the settlement.	NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED.					COST DURING THE YEAR.		
Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.			Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Total.	Former rental of tenants included in column 21.	New rental settled for tenants included in column 21.	Survey, exclusive of expenditure incurred by the Survey Department.	Settlement.	Total.
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

and Government Estates.

...	303	...	...	18,00,000	...	...	59,199	59,199	Re.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
...	707	...	...		...	...	97,912	97,912	1,72,840	2,24,207	...	3,09,962	3,09,962
...	100	...	...		...	...	20,077	20,077	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	2,45,276 (b) 13,242 9,599	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
327	283	255	252		1,77,786	1,06,719	71,067	177,786	4,13,815	5,61,048	...	1,48,283	1,48,283
...	...	...	...		...	...	12,950	12,950	56,666	74,433	1,176	15,990	15,990
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,662	10,338
...	95	...	...	14,000	...	...	10,124	10,124	48,317	57,281	...	8,876	8,876
...	...	...	...	9,704	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,620	9,620
4	...	3	1	6,675	5,652	936	1,071	2,007	37,715	49,975	12,956	...	12,956
...	49	...	...	8,500	...	...	2,853	2,853	44,412	48,423	Cost included in Tikari and Balkhara.	...	...
...	...	...	...	1,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	130	1,237	1,367
331	1,537	253	253	21,07,996	183,438	107,655	275,253	382,908	7,73,765	10,15,367	1,306	5,03,620	5,17,882
12,956													

Estates.

2,272	1,541	768	1,161	1,00,000	2,28,616	5,632	3,862	9,494	60,768	87,610	...	1,80,057	1,80,057
622	632	306	373	5,00,000	1,42,491	35,001	34,633	60,634	6,23,199	6,81,426	...	1,21,102	1,21,102
265	867	57	11	6,00,900	5,130	20,209	21,729	41,938	4,56,121	5,15,189	...	62,135	62,135
5	(a) 230	...	97	2,36,283	5,785	132	1,884	2,016	23,094	30,191	...	68,092	66,092
...	18	...	...	8,870	...	...	2,408	2,408	16,208	22,554	...	5,109	5,109
...	3	...	8	1,210	1,210	...	156	156	10,232	13,075	...	4,141	4,141
...	3	...	...	1,450	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,407	...	2,407
...	11	...	11	475	475	...	231	231	3,392	3,393	...	991	991
...	3	...	1	352	45	...	118	118	811	811	...	407	407
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Cost included in Muzaffarpur.	...	...
3,164	3,313	1,131	1,661	14,49,538	3,83,750	60,974	65,021	1,25,995	12,13,825	13,54,249	...	4,40,034	4,42,441
2,407													

Estates.

152	(e) 12	144	(e) 20	20,481	20,481	4,152	60	4,212	38,173	40,222	...	10,575	10,575
47	...	47	...	30,125	30,125	30,125	...	30,125	3,51,432	3,63,873	...	1,351	1,351
8	1	4	5	1,616	1,481	1,481	...	1,481	20,050	20,050	...	2,078	2,078
440	108	...	478	62,500	29,995	111	69	180	4,940	5,891	27,000	24,852	51,852
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,144	2,144
647	121	195	503	1,14,752	82,082	35,869	129	35,998	4,14,595	4,30,038	27,000	41,000	68,000

being the area of jagirdari holdings lying within the Khalsa villages. tenants for whom no fair rent has been settled. defective was redone in 55 villages in 1894-95 and in 99 villages in 1895-96. published.

de novo. with those given in last year's report are revised figures.

APPENDIX II.

No. 2063, dated Cuttack, the 10th October 1896.

From—S. L. MADDOX, Esq., Settlement Officer, Orissa Division,

To—The Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.

WITH reference to your No. 53S., dated 11th September 1896, I have the honour to submit herewith the following report on the progress of the settlement operations in the Province of Orissa during the settlement year 1895-96.

2. *Notifications and orders sanctioning operations.*—All notifications issued prior to the current year have already been detailed in the report submitted by the Settlement Officer of Orissa with his No. 1874, dated the 29th October 1894, and in the annual reports of the Settlement Officers of Cuttack and Puri and of Balasore for the year 1895-96.

There have been no notifications during the current year either adding to or restricting the sphere of operations.

3. *Area under survey and settlement.*—The area within which settlement operations are proceeding is as follows:—

NAME OF DISTRICT.			Temporari-ly settled.	Permanent-ly settled.	Total.	REMARKS.
1			2	3	4	5
			Sqr. m.	Sqr. m.	Sqr. m.	
Cuttack	...	...	2,099	174	2,273	(a) Ekrajat.
Puri	...	...	985	104(a)	1,089	
Balasore	...	...	1,733	...	1,733	
Khurda	...	...	913	...	913	
Total			5,730	278	6,008	

This area includes revenue-free estates scattered among the temporarily-settled lands, but excludes permanently-settled lands surveyed on the 2" scale.

4. *Staff.*—From the beginning of the year up to the 18th February, when Mr. Maude went on leave, Cuttack and Puri were under his charge, while I held independent charge of Balasore. After the 18th February Mr. Thomson acted temporarily as Settlement Officer of Cuttack and Puri, but shortly afterwards the three districts were amalgamated, and by Notification No. 1866L.R., of 11th April 1896, I was appointed Settlement Officer of Orissa, with effect from the 18th February. All Assistant Settlement Officers under me have since been gazetted to powers throughout Orissa; so that transfers can be made from one district to another without fresh notification.

The staff employed on settlement during the year, their distribution, and the nature of their work are shown in the subjoined table (F).

5. *Survey and khamapuri.*—The whole survey and khamapuri of the Cuttack, Balasore, and Puri lands had been completed before the beginning of the year.

In Khurda the survey of 913 square miles has been revised, and the khamapuri completed, under the supervision of Mr. R. C. Ewing. Mr. Kingsford and Babu Nadia Chand Dutt were employed on khamapuri inspection. Mr. Kingsford was in charge of the Kuhuri and Banpur parganas, while Mr. Ewing and Babu Nadia Chand Dutt inspected the work in the north of the estate. The field season closed on 15th May.

6. *Attestation.*—The amount of attestation done during the year may be seen from the annexed return No. A. Some 10½ lakhs of plots in Cuttack and 3½ lakhs in Balasore were attested, while re-attestation (the original work having been done very badly) was done in 3½ lakhs in Puri, and nearly 3 lakhs of plots in Cuttack. After the visit of the Senior Member of the Board with the Director in March 1896, special rules were issued to simplify as far as possible the procedure, and avoid unnecessary repetition, and an outturn of over 20,000 plots per month was obtained.

7. *Assessment.*—During the recess of 1895 assets were tabulated for selected circles in Cuttack and Balasore, and reports submitted to the Director. These reports contained many elaborate suggestions for procedure for fixing fair rents. In November, with the approval of the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, four assessment circles were started by me in Balasore. The procedure may be described briefly as follows. All rents paid at a rate below the average rate paid by *thani* and *pahi* settled raiyats in a village were enhanced up to that rate. The rents of *baziaftidars* were raised practically as high as they would accept, i.e., some reduction below the product of their areas and the average rate was given. Between 1st November and 24th December acceptances were obtained from 13,805 tenants, but no judgments were signed. The whole proceedings with a copy of the instructions were

sent up to the Director with my No. 320, of 10th January 1896, as Settlement Officer of Balasore. The work done was criticised by the Director (Mr. Macpherson) in his No. 455S., of 11th February 1896, to the address of the Board. The main result of the procedure was to enhance existing rents by 32·72 per cent., the rents in nearly 36 per cent. of the 14,000 tenants having been left unaltered. When Mr. Maude went on furlough in February, I was summoned to Calcutta to explain the fair-rent procedure, and was directed to take charge of the work in Cuttack and Puri in addition to that in Balasore. By the orders of the Board and the Officiating Director (Mr. Lyon) I was directed to proceed with the fair rent work in Balasore, and to open five circles in Cuttack and two in Puri. In March the Hon'ble Mr. Stevens and Mr. Lyon visited Orissa. They saw the work in Khurda, and some reattestation work in Puri, and visited two fair-rent camps in Balasore. The principal rules for the settlement of rents were then drawn up under the supervision of the Hon'ble Member and of the Director. Other rules and amendments were made at the visits of the Director in July and September.

The original proceedings were sent on by the Board with their letter No. 408A., of 6th May 1896, to Government, and Government experimentally sanctioned them in letter No. 400T.R., of 6th June 1896.

The main principles on which we are now working are summarized by Government as follows:—

- (a) That in the case of the *pahi* raiyats of Orissa (whose rents the zamindars were empowered to enhance, and did enhance during the past 60 years), the existing rents should be taken as fair rents, unless applications be made by the zamindar for enhancement or by the raiyat for reduction.
- (b) That in the case of *thani* raiyats, whose rents have not been altered during the term of the last settlement, rents should be proposed to them which would be somewhat lower than the competition rents paid by *pahi* raiyats; that the rents so proposed, if accepted by the raiyats, should be recorded as the fair rents with their consent; and that if the rents proposed be not accepted, then the fair rents should be settled in accordance with the provisions of Chapter X of the Tenancy Act, following the Civil Procedure Code and Tenancy Act Rules, enhancements being mainly based on the great rise in prices that has taken place since the existing rents were fixed 60 years ago.
- (c) That in the case of *baziaftidars* and similar privileged tenants, rents should be proposed in a similar manner, which would be somewhat lower than those fixed for non-privileged tenants, and be, if accepted, recorded as fair. If not accepted, rents are to be settled strictly in accordance with the procedure laid down in Chapter X of the Tenancy Act and the Government rules made under it.

The lower rent referred to in (b) is determined as follows:—Find by what percentage the *thani* rate in a village differs from the average rate paid by settled and occupany raiyats. Enhance *thani* rents by half that percentage. By this means we maintain the soil classifications of the last settlement.

The general results of the fair-rent work are to be found in statements B and C appended.

Statement D shows the draft publication and case work.

Fair rents have been settled for 177,188 tenants in 1,410 villages. The existing rents have been retained in the case of 91,808 tenants, or 52 per cent.

Rents have been altered as follows:—

	For excess area.	For less area.	Newly assessed.	Altered on other grounds, e.g., rise in prices.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Number of tenants	29,519	3,842	8,131	43,888	
Percentage of total number of tenants	17	2	5	24	

There have been 865 objections to the rents proposed, in which proceedings under the Civil Procedure Code have been taken. No appeals against decisions in fair-rent proceedings have been reported. Rents have been raised from Rs. 1,72,840 to Rs. 2,24,207, or nearly 30 per cent. The enhancement appears very much higher than it really is, because in the total of existing rents no allowance is made for the valuation of *nij-chas* lands in the cultivating possession of the landlords themselves. The ordinary application of the rules gives an enhancement of more than 12 and less than 20 per cent.

The percentage of enhancement of the tenants of each description will be found in statement C annexed. Detailed comment is unnecessary. It may be noted that generally in Balasore enhancements are more severe. The principal reasons are that there is far more extension of cultivation there, and the zamindars are more lax in keeping up their rent-rolls.

The existing rents of *baziaftidars* in Puri are generally high, so that the enhancement is very small. They are high because they are mostly *tankidars* (quit-rent), and only 30 per cent. remission, instead of 50 per cent. as in other places, was granted to the *tankidars* at the last settlement. In Balasore, where in some months the enhancements of *baziafti* appear high, the rate settled is very occasionally more than half the rate paid by settled and occupancy raiyats.

Altogether 17 officers working for 80 months have settled rents for 1,77,188 tenants, an average outturn of 2,214 tenants per month. As regards revenue, I can only hazard a very rough guess that 55 per cent. of the assets would give an increase of revenue of 75, 66 and 50 per cent. in Balasore, Cuttack and Puri respectively.

The programme for this field season is to employ on fair rent work in Cuttack 15 or 16 officers, in Balasore 11 officers, in Puri 10 officers, and in Khurda 4 officers. Four covenanted assistants and Mr Taylor, a Deputy Collector, will be employed on inspection work. In Cuttack and Puri a great deal of revision of attestation is necessary, so that progress will be slow. In Khurda attestation and fair rent work are to be combined. We may hope for an average outturn of rents settled for 3,000 tenants in Balasore and in part of Cuttack, 2,500 in Puri, and possibly 2,000 in Khurda.

8. *Draft publication.*—Draft publication has been made in 1,110 villages out of 1,410 villages in which fair rents have been fixed. Eight hundred and twenty-two objections under section 105 have been lodged, and of these 648 have been decided. One hundred and ten suits have been filed under section 106, and 41 have been disposed of.

9. *Recess work.*—Large recess establishments were entertained at Cuttack, Bhadrak and Balasore. Schedules were prepared for all tenants in Cuttack and Balasore for whom fair rents have to be settled next year, and extracts from old settlement records were made to facilitate re-attestation work in Puri, and the traces of 693 villages of Khurda were coloured and scheduled as a preparation for the scheme of assessment proposed for Khurda. Copies of the khatians of 34,088 tenants were prepared for final publication and distribution. Details of the outturn are given in Statement E appended to this report.

I.—Annual return of Khanapuri Work.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER EMPLOYED.	Name of Circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH KHANAPURI WORK WAS COMPLETED.		Area of villages in which khana-puri has been completed to end of the year.	Number of villages of which khana-puri is going on but is incomplete.	Number of villages inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of annas inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of plots of which the khasra entries were tested.	REMARKS.
				Up to end of the previous year.	During the year.						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Mr. R. C. Ewing ...	Cuttack ...	4,923	2,273	Completed in previous seasons.				...	...	...	Mr. Ewing was assisted by Mr. Kingsford and Babu N. C. Dutt, and for a few weeks by Mr. Webster.
	Puri ...	1,957	985								
	Balasore ...	3,736	1,733								
	Khurda ...	1,342	913								
				...	1,342	913	Nil				

II.—Annual return of boundary disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act for the year ending 30th September 1896.

NAME OF DISTRICT.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF.			NUMBER REMAINING AT THE END OF THE YEAR.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE MONTH UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
	Number pending.	Number instituted during the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending from preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Cuttack	...	Nil	...	...	Nil	...	Nil	3	3	3	...	...	(a) Of these, 10 boundary dispute with Gurjat have been decided but are shown as pending, as final report has not yet been submitted to the Superintendent, Tributary Mahals, for confirmation.
Puri	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Balasore	64	205	269	...	210	210	59(a)	15	7	5	1	...	

Statement showing progress made in attestation work in the Province of Orissa during the year ending 30th September 1896.

Serial num- ber.	NAME OF DISTRICT.	WORK TO BE DONE.			WORK DONE UP TO END OF PREVIOUS YEAR.			WORK DONE DURING 1895-96.			TOTAL WORK DONE UP TO END OF SEPTEMBER 1896.			BALANCE(b).			REMARKS.
		Village.	Plot.	Area.	Village.	Plot.	Area.	Village.	Plot.	Area.	Village.	Plot.	Area.	Village.	Plot.	Area.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1	Cuttack ...	4,923	4,352,640	2273'38	3,876	3,159,760	1772'68	1,028 (a) 299	1,022,925 295,520	495'29	4,904	4,182,694	2267'97	19	160,946	4'71	
2	Puri ...	1,957	1,472,949	985'00	1,957	1,472,949	985'00	(a) 562	357,499	216'85	1,937	1,472,949	985'00	...	...	...	
	Ekraja ...	141	64,812	104'00	23	11,986	13'05	78	28,543	75'99	101	40,529	89'04	...	...	...	
	Khurda ...	1,342	754,307	913'47	...	...	...	48	22,938	18'01	48	22,938	18'01	1,294	731,369	895'46	
3	Balasore ...	3,736	2,121,455	1733'11	3,050	1,888,690	1497'27	686	232,765	235'84	3,736	2,121,455	1733'11	...	...	...	

(a) The records of these villages were finally attested during previous years, but owing to certain irregularities, they were revised during the year.
 (b) Columns 15 to 17 do not show the number of villages, etc. that will have to be reattested.

B.

Analysis of rent fixed during the year 30th September 1896.

NAME OF OFFICER.	VILLAGES.			TENANTS.			NUMBER OF TENANTS WHOSE RENT IS—						REMARKS.
	Total number in circle.	Completed up to end of previous year.	In present year.	Total number.	Completed up to end of previous year.	In present year.	Increased for excess area.	Reduced for less area.	Newly assessed.	Assessed on other grounds.	Retained.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
CUTTACK DISTRICT.													
Mr. J. E. Webster ...	4,923	...	20	...	...	3,381	315	120	707	644	1,695	39	
Babu J. N. Mitra ...		...	66	...	...	11,197	815	18	184	3,192	6,988	1	
" J. M. Das ...		...	122	...	...	13,186	769	197	616	3,422	8,182	4	
Mr. J. Taylor ...		...	87	...	...	8,882	1,269	881	370	1,611	4,761	591	
Babu C. N. Ghose ...		...	18	...	...	2,324	643	19	...	608	1,049	6	
" N. C. Kar ...		...	65	...	...	11,317	2,745	40	562	1,790	6,180	4	
" H. C. Rai ...		...	76	...	...	8,912	1,664	135	680	2,223	4,190	...	
Total ...	4,923	Nil	452	...	Nil	59,199	8,225	1,430	3,119	13,490	32,935	645	
PURI DISTRICT.													
Babu A. K. Sen ...	1,957	...	65	...	...	9,889	1,449	49	371	2,214	5,806	20	
Mr. D. H. Kingsford ...		...	58	...	...	5,922	1,053	39	334	632	3,323	11	
Babu J. M. Sinha ...		...	35	...	...	4,266	420	52	225	813	2,749	4	
Total ...	1,957	Nil	158	...	...	20,077	2,922	188	930	3,709	12,378	35	
BALASORE DISTRICT.													
Mr. W. B. Thomson ...	3,736	...	11	...	...	1,382	79	54	26	272	1,451	...	
Babu S. G. Bhattacharji ...		...	148	...	...	19,753	2,662	583	1,077	2,387	12,944	180	
" P. C. Das ...		...	199	...	...	18,201	2,991	661	760	6,940	6,849	...	
" P. K. Banerji ...		...	237	...	...	29,956	8,383	457	1,154	8,508	11,456	...	
" J. Biswas ...		...	87	...	...	6,062	888	158	384	2,390	2,322	5	
" G. C. Dutt ...		...	18	...	...	2,663	517	21	28	701	1,396	...	
" A. P. Das ...		...	66	...	...	8,695	1,594	168	143	2,462	4,388	...	
" H. K. Mahanty ...		...	38	...	...	10,700	1,268	172	500	2,121	6,639	...	
Total ...	3,736	Nil	804	...	Nil	97,912	18,372	2,274	4,082	26,689	46,495	185	
GRAND TOTAL ...	10,616	...	1,410	18,00,000	...	177,186	29,519	3,842	8,181	43,888	91,808	865	

Return showing the manner in which rents

NAME OF OFFICER.	KHARIDA, JAMABANDI AND OTHER TENURES, EXCLUDING SARBARAKARI, MAKADDAMI—AND SIKMI ZAMINDARS.					NISFI BAZIAFTI.					KAMIL BAZIAFTI.				
	Number.	Area.	Existing rent.	Settled rent.	Enhancement per cent.	Number.	Area.	Existing rent.	Settled rent.	Enhancement per cent.	Number.	Area.	Existing rent.	Settled rent.	Enhancement per cent.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
CUTTACK DISTRICT.		Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Acres.	Rs.	Rs.			Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	
Babu Jamini Mohan Das ...	304	427	564	932	65	2,662	2,333	992	2,515	154	298	171	131	213	61
" Jogendra Narayan Mitra ...	248	230	290	519	79	1,493	1,136	359	1,114	210	920	711	451	707	57
" Haris Chandra Rai ...	135	163	121	316	161	1,198	980	277	1,048	278	450	257	146	323	121
" Chandranath Ghose ...	12	12	11	26	136	289	173	192	388	102	...	...	...	...	...
" Nabin Chandra Ker ...	350	484	303	735	133	643	543	229	684	199	499	400	619	795	28
Mr. James Taylor ...	176	220	312	416	33	849	1,032	604	1,499	149	60	45	49	79	71
" J. E. Webster ...	35	122	76	108	42	202	185	94	207	121	13	12	9	17	85
Total ...	1,260	1,658	1,676	3,052	82	7,336	6,382	2,744	7,455	172	2,240	1,596	1,405	2,134	52
PURI DISTRICT.															
Mr. D. H. Kingsford ...	79	317	182	368	102	517	549	316	772	144	39	33	23	37	2
Babu Jotendra Mohan Sinha ...	...	...	...	...	...	704	1,151	598	1,123	87	168	303	310	322	26
" Akhoy Kumar Sen ...	9	98	91	94	4	1,053	1,262	705	1,434	103	116	203	307	329	7
Total ...	88	415	273	462	68	2,274	2,932	1,619	3,329	105	323	539	640	758	18
BALASORE DISTRICT.															
Mr. W. B. Thomson ...	5	7	27	38	40	292	99	167	399	117	7	4	7	15	96
Babu Srigopal Bhattacharji ...	48	538	256	522	104	2,093	3,344	976	2,977	205	474	572	318	584	84
" Prasanna Kumar Banerji ...	85	410	233	566	143	3,441	5,067	1,115	4,162	273	1,179	1,818	723	1,679	132
" Rames Chandra Das ...	3	8	3	8	135	2,965	4,570	1,389	4,486	223	312	918	583	987	69
" Girish Chandra Dutt ...	...	...	...	...	...	316	532	169	645	282	101	101	59	152	158
" Jogeswar Biswas ...	3	16	6	15	142	382	943	291	815	253	618	1,067	485	952	96
" Abhoy Prasad Das ...	65	391	330	555	69	1,107	1,548	416	1,393	235	219	321	177	297	69
" Hari Krishna Mahanty ...	165	235	378	467	24	826	928	493	1,398	184	79	51	35	68	94
Total ...	374	1,605	1,233	2,171	76	11,422	17,031	4,976	16,275	227	2,989	4,852	2,387	4,734	98

NAMES OF OFFICERS.	CHANDNA.					GRAND TOTAL OF RAIYATS.					OTHER TENANCIES NOT BINDING AGAINST GOVERNMENT ASSESSED TO RENT.					SARKARI JAGR NOW PROVISIONALLY ASSESSED.		
	Number.	Area.	Existing rent.	Settled rent.	Enhancement per cent.	Number.	Area.	Existing rent.	Settled rent.	Enhancement per cent.	Number.	Area.	Existing rent.	Settled rent.	Enhancement per cent.	Number.	Area.	Rent.
	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54
CUTTACK DISTRICT.		Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Acres.	
Babu Jamini Mohan Das ...	1,139	185	1,202	1,274	1	6,428	5,138	17,696	18,225	7	172	80	12	190	1,483	95	133	374
" Jogendra Narayan Mitra ...	379	85	394	407	3	6,063	5,928	19,465	20,021	...	...	...	...	...	...	161	202	622
" Haris Chandra Rai ...	162	62	226	234	4	5,221	7,403	22,467	23,822	6	...	...	...	...	...	175	173	496
" Chandranath Ghose ...	32	6	23	23	...	1,458	1,859	6,128	6,732	10	...	...	...	...	...	179	442	1,154
" Nabin Chandra Ker ...	253	180	390	390	...	7,178	10,560	27,976	29,865	7	...	...	...	...	...	196	364	557
Mr. James Taylor ...	544	187	871	835	4	5,883	10,628	28,531	29,506	3	10	4	...	15	...	141	225	571
" J. E. Webster ...	271	56	257	261	2	2,059	1,980	5,705	5,399	—5	4	5	...	10	...	30	27	65
Total ...	2,783	751	3,423	3,424	...	31,295	43,496	1,27,968	1,33,570	4	186	89	12	215	1,692	977	1,566	3,839
PURI DISTRICT.																		
Mr. D. H. Kingsford ...	134	24	117	117	...	4,425	5,435	12,871	13,225	3	60	10	...	21	...	90	94	211
Babu Jotendra Mohan Sinha ...	53	9	20	20	...	2,047	4,057	6,13	7,388	4	...	...	...	...	...	50	96	137
" Akhoy Kumar Sen ...	151	21	101	101	...	6,343	8,739	13,862	14,841	6	20	35	14	54	285	84	85	187
Total ...	338	54	238	238	...	12,815	18,231	32,865	35,454	7	80	45	14	75	435	224	277	475
BALASORE DISTRICT.																		
Mr. N. B. Thomson ...	871	112	1,170	1,215	3	891	123	1,215	1,266	4	2	1	Niskar	1	...	...	...	...
Babu Srigopal Bhattacharji ...	1,579	356	1,577	1,599	1	11,413	18,032	34,632	36,024	4	5	5	...	4	...	109	410	710
" Prasanna Kumar Banerji ...	675	166	371	488	15	16,692	36,153	47,701	53,752	13	5	8	...	13	117	59	596	838
" Rames Chandra Das ...	524	140	213	234	9	8,969	16,396	25,767	27,736	8	46	291	122	345	183	190	432	731
" Girish Chandra Dutt ...	40	8	21	22	3	1,622	3,117	5,833	6,191	5	...	...	...	...	...	18	55	111
" Jogeswar Biswas ...	120	51	59	64	8	3,432	8,917	12,081	13,979	7	...	...	...	...	...	55	89	123
" Abhoy Prasad Das ...	160	38	96	86	—10	4,680	9,309	15,596	16,967	9	3	15	...	32	...	45	143	249
" Hari Krishna Mahanty ...	190	31	182	184	1	7,232	8,512	21,141	23,379	11	17	24	46	62	36	36	67	153
Total ...	4,159	902	3,689	3,832	4	55,241	1,00,859	1,63,976	1,78,284	9	78	344	174	437	163	512	1,782	2,914

have been fixed for each class of tenants.

A—RENT-PAYING.																			
THANI.					THANI-PARI MIXED.					SETTLED AND OCCUPANCY.					NON-OCCUPANCY.				
Number.	Area.	Existing rent.	Settled rent.	Enhancement per cent.	Number.	Area.	Existing rent.	Settled rent.	Enhancement per cent.	Number.	Area.	Existing rent.	Settled rent.	Enhancement per cent.	Number.	Area.	Existing rent.	Settled rent.	Enhancement per cent.
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
115	114	273	314	15	244	696	1,981	2,112	7	4,911	4,130	14,144	14,458	3	19	14	36	37	3
654	1,010	3,259	3,334	2	...	...	...	...	...	5,002	4,882	15,765	16,233	2	33	14	45	47	4
177	238	602	756	14	343	1,384	4,327	4,689	8	4,502	5,720	17,150	18,039	6	37	10	161	165	3
51	60	205	214	4	273	647	2,080	2,311	11	1,066	1,131	3,774	4,131	9	36	15	46	54	17
279	541	1,988	2,036	2	585	2,735	5,711	6,065	6	5,761	6,919	19,519	20,872	7	306	185	367	501	37
344	894	2,733	2,803	3	344	1,824	3,903	4,318	11	4,282	7,320	19,886	20,331	3	369	492	1,138	1,109	3
244	391	1,224	1,091	-11	8	37	97	92	-6	1,474	1,472	4,075	3,910	-4	62	24	51	45	12
1,864	3,248	10,344	10,548	2	1,797	7,323	18,099	19,587	8	26,998	31,574	94,313	98,054	4	856	664	1,784	1,957	10
188	178	254	281	15	296	927	2,461	2,462	...	3,753	4,287	10,002	10,323	3	54	19	37	40	8
204	475	963	979	1	291	1,380	2,362	2,446	3	1,450	2,153	2,709	3,883	42	40	40	78	80	...
1,077	425	2,286	2,454	7	1,324	3,228	5,263	5,674	...	3,593	3,942	6,134	6,487	5	198	123	78	125	60
1,449	1,078	3,503	3,714	6	1,911	5,535	10,086	10,532	4	8,805	10,382	18,845	20,673	9	292	182	193	245	27
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	11	45	51	12	...	...	...	...	...
127	222	419	420	...	925	3,794	6,538	7,036	8	8,718	13,593	25,960	26,831	3	64	67	128	138	8
119	218	288	286	13	1,664	8,215	10,558	12,191	15	13,904	27,207	38,123	40,386	12	380	347	361	411	17
184	316	571	555	9	860	4,373	6,796	7,287	7	6,819	11,194	17,698	19,030	8	552	373	649	630	15
15	39	65	68	4	167	696	1,365	1,422	4	1,594	2,367	4,424	4,649	6	6	7	8	10	18
49	123	135	163	21	743	3,594	4,797	5,182	8	2,532	5,130	7,062	7,540	7	38	19	28	30	8
67	101	168	173	3	838	3,434	5,261	5,900	12	3,499	5,005	9,813	10,557	7	126	131	228	241	6
580	909	2,213	2,471	12	630	1,853	4,719	5,238	11	5,821	5,979	13,963	15,421	10	61	29	58	65	12
1,141	1,928	3,799	4,176	10	5,827	25,959	40,034	44,256	11	42,907	71,086	115,088	124,485	8	1,207	964	1,360	1,535	13

B.—ASSESSED TO REVENUE.																			
TAUFIK.					OTHER TENANCIES NOT BINDING AGAINST GOVERNMENT ASSESSED TO REVENUE.					NIJ-JOTE AND NIJ CHAS.					TOTAL.				
Number.	Area.	Rent.	Number.	Area.	Existing rent.	Valuation.	For revenue.	Per cent.	Number.	Area.	Valuation for revenue.	Sairat.	Number.	Area.	Existing rent.	Settled rent.	Valuation per cent.	Total of all other tenants whose rents have been settled.	Grand total of tenants dealt with during the month.
55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74
...	...	Rs.	...	...	Rs.	Rs.	...	...	...	Rs.	...	...	...	Rs.	Rs.	...	...	...	...
79	9	28	189	48	1	183	18,200	660	1,099	3,810	142	10,808	9,429	23,206	26,585	10	2,378	13,186	...
341	42	124	218	99	31	314	913	280	724	2,332	102	9,467	9,111	22,925	25,658	12	1,730	11,197	...
19	5	13	228	64	3	193	6,333	128	485	1,300	11	7,876	9,539	24,236	27,026	13	1,036	8,912	...
205	25	73	45	24	...	78	...	39	110	372	...	2,041	2,627	6,703	8,787	31	283	2,324	...
178	34	87	223	257	...	792	...	202	571	2,143	152	9,496	13,202	31,269	36,792	14	1,821	11,317	...
32	14	41	122	27	...	72	...	218	2,188	5,830	8	7,637	14,376	35,323	38,085	7	1,245	8,852	...
...	...	...	62	12	...	35	...	535	389	1,170	34	2,972	2,747	7,054	7,086	...	409	3,381	...
554	129	366	1,087	581	85	1,667	4,663	2,062	5,566	16,957	449	50,297	61,021	1,50,719	1,62,599	13	8,902	59,199	...
26	4	6	43	24	...	39	...	101	680	1,441	17	5,380	7,126	14,833	16,120	26	542	5,922	...
49	4	8	111	50	...	89	...	398	1,739	2,810	6	3,437	7,398	7,040	11,453	62	829	4,266	...
34	5	8	162	50	46	76	65	233	637	991	99	8,054	11,164	16,016	18,053	12	1,835	9,859	...
109	13	22	316	124	46	204	343	642	3,086	4,792	123	16,871	25,688	37,689	45,026	24	3,206	20,077	...
7	1	10	...	...	...	...	...	19	26	114	...	1,223	260	1,436	1,843	28	659	1,882	...
250	53	86	480	349	3	609	...	462	1,575	3,064	230	15,334	24,883	36,175	44,506	24	4,419	10,753	...
422	96	169	1,346	1,643	1	2,118	...	623	2,439	3,811	306	23,951	48,230	49,779	67,404	35	6,104	20,956	...
9	2	3	1,016	925	49	1,408	...	191	992	1,613	107	13,701	24,534	27,913	37,424	27	4,500	18,201	...
96	26	34	63	31	...	65	...	23	69	119	1	2,439	3,928	6,111	7,308	17	224	2,663	...
95	25	32	271	262	...	336	...	174	634	941	175	5,070	11,953	15,803	16,367	19	992	6,063	...
143	45	50	349	221	...	395	...	212	829	1,503	59	6,538	12,822	16,489	21,439	29	1,557	8,905	...
148	36	89	105	59	46	150	...	337	634	1,594	225	9,016	12,537	22,134	27,588	25	1,684	10,700	...
1,176	285	463	3,630	3,490	99	5,041	4,991	2,051	7,198	12,759	1,106	77,572	1,29,147	1,72,840	2,24,204	80	20,439	97,912	...

X

D.

Return of Draft Publication and Case-work during the year ending 30th September 1896.

NAME OF DISTRICT.	Total number of villages in the district.	Total number of villages in which fair rents have been settled up to the end of the year.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH DRAFT PUBLICATION HAS BEEN COMPLETED—			OBJECTIONS UNDER SECTION 105, TENANCY ACT—						SUITS UNDER SECTION 106—						REMARKS.		
			To the end of the pre-vious year.	During the present year.	Total.	Filed.			Disposed of.			Pend-ing.	Filed.			Disposed of.			Pend-ing.	
						To the end of the pre-vious year.	During the present year.	Total.	To the end of the pre-vious year.	During the present year.	Total.		To the end of the pre-vious year.	During the year.	Total.	To the end of the pre-vious year.	During the year.			Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Cuttack	...	4,923	452	Nil	303	303	...	429	429	...	380	380	49	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Puri	...	1,957	158	...	100	100	...	33	33	...	17	17	16	...	13	13	...	...	...	...
Balsore	...	3,786	804	...	707	707	...	360	360	...	251	251	109	...	96	96	...	33	8	63

E.

Statement showing Tabulation work done during the year ending 30th September 1896 in the Province of Orissa.

NAME OF DISTRICT.	TERIJ.			MILAN KHASRA.			SCHEDULE.			CONTINUOUS KHATIAN.			REMARKS.
	Up to end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	Up to end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	Up to end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	Up to end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Cuttack ...	..	100,933	100,933	..	142,886	142,886	..	459,821	459,821	..	..	..	..
Puri ...	..	6,528	6,528	..	10,057	10,057	..	35,999	35,999	..	..	..	..
Balsore ...	..	1,126,463	1,126,463	..	1,491,097	1,491,097	..	302,326	302,326	..	34,088	34,088	..

F.

Statement Showing disposition of officers.

NAMES OF OFFICERS.	Where employed.	Name of work.	PERIOD.		Number of days on tour.	REMARKS.
			From	To		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Babu Jamini Mohan Das...	Jajpur ...	Attestation ...	October 1895	March 1896	341	* This officer took three weeks' privilege leave in July 1896.
„ Haris Chandra Rai*	Balubisi ..	Assessment ...	April 1896	September 1896	311	
„ Ajoy Ch. Das ...	Gandito ...	Attestation ...	October 1895	March 1896	160	
„ Balmakund Kanungo	Rahang ...	Ditto ...	April 1896	September 1896	185	
„ Sudarson Das ...	Gandito ...	Ditto ...	November 1895	February 1896	316	
„	Utiken ...	Ditto ...	March 1896	April 1896	..	
„	Antrodh ...	Ditto ...	November 1895	May 1896	..	
„ Nobin Chandra Ker	Kot Rahang	Ditto ...	February 1896	May 1896	..	
„	Alti ...	Ditto ...	May 1896	September 1896	..	
„ Amrito Sekher Mukerji,	Do. ...	Ditto ...	November 1895	19th May 1896	..	
„	Assureswar ...	Assessment ...	May 1896	30th September 1896	..	
„	Padampur ...	Attestation ...	November 1895	May 1896	187	
„ Akhoy Kumar Sen ...	Head-quarters ...	Tabulation work...	June 1896	September 1896	..	304
„	Gandito ...	Attestation ...	November 1895	January 1896	..	
„	Kotdesh ...	Assessment ...	February 1896	May 1896	..	
„	Lembai ...	Ditto ...	June 1896	September 1896	..	
„ Jotindra Mohan Sinha	Ekrajat ...	Attestation ...	October 1895	June 1896	293	293
„	Chowbiakud ...	Assessment ...	July 1896	September 1896	..	

NAMES OF OFFICERS.	Where employed.	Name of work.	PERIOD.		Number of days on tour.	REMARKS.
			From	To		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Mr. J. Taylor	Utikan	Attestation ...	November 1895	March 1896	287	
	Ditto	Assessment ...	April 1896	July 1896		
Babu Parames Prasanna Rai.	Kodinda	Ditto	August 1895	September 1895	206	
	Jajpur	Attestation ...	November 1895	February 1896		
" Debendra Prosad Rai	Chowbiskud ...	Ditto	March 1896	May 1896	198	
" Amrito Lal Gupta ...	Asureswar, Karimul Jajpur	Ditto	November 1895	May 1896		
" Nadia Chand Dutt ...	Serai	Ditto	Ditto	February 1896	191	
" Chandranath Ghose	Khurda	Khanapuri ...	December 1895	May 1896		
" Chandranath Ghose	Ahi	Attestation ...	November 1895	March 1896	156	
	Do.	Assessment ...	April 1896	May 1896		
" Jogendra Narayan Mitra. *	Asureswar and Saraswati.	Attestation ...	October 1895	March 1896	236	* This officer went on a month's privilege leave in August 1896.
	Assureswar ...	Assessment ...	April 1896	September 1896		
Mr. J. E. Webster	Cuttack	Inspection work ...	March 1896	June 1896	98	
	Kodinda	Assessment ...	July 1896	September 1896		
" D. H. Kingsford ...	Puri	Assessment and attestation.	July 1896	Ditto 1896	156	
" W. B. Thomson ...	Cuttack	Settlement Officer	December 1895	March 1896		
Babu Srigopal Bhatta-charji.	Balasore	Ditto	12th March 1896	6th July 1896	58	Went on privilege leave from 6th July.
	W. Bhadrak ...	Assessment ...	1st October 1895	Ditto 1896		
		Head office work	6th July 1896	30th September 1896	199	
Rames Chandra Das	Ditto	Assessment ...	2nd November 1895	17th May 1896		
" Jozeswar Biswas ...	Ditto	Ditto	13th January 1896	31st May 1896	98	
" Prasanna Kumar Banerji.	Ditto	Attestation ...	1st October 1895	31st October 1895		
" Girish Chandra Dutta	Ditto	Assessment ...	1st November 1895	30th September 1896	203	
" Abhoy Prasad Das ...	Western Bhadrak	Assessment ...	4th November 1895	5th February 1896		
" Syama Charan Sen...	North Balasore ...	Attestation ...	1st November 1895	15th February 1896	268	
		Assessment ...	16th February 1896	25th August 1896		
" Harikrishna Mahanty	Ditto	Attestation ...	2nd November 1895	15th February 1896	150	
	Ditto	Assessment ...	16th February 1896	17th March 1896		
" Jagannath Dutta ...	Chowbiskud (Puri)	Attestation ...	20th March 1896	31st May 1896	270	
	Eastern Bhadrak	Attestation ...	30th October 1895	15th May 1896		
		Assessment ...	16th May 1896	30th September 1896	174	Went on privilege leave from 3rd May to 1st June 1896.
	North Balasore ...	Attestation ...	1st October 1895	30th April 1896		
	Bhadrak	Tabulation ...	1st May 1896	30th September 1896		

BALASORE.

Financial Statement for the year ending 30th September 1896.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Expenditure in the previous year (against each sub-head.)	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head.)	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4
1. Pay and special allowance of—	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Settlement Officer ...	14,975 11 4	14,405 13 1	
Assistant Settlement Officers	19,265 10 1	18,803 10 11	
2. Fixed establishment ...	3,735 11 6	5,304 12 4	
3. Temporary establishment ...	32,219 4 1	26,002 5 2	
4. Contract and job work ..	Nil.	6,580 5 7	
5. Travelling allowance—			
Of officers ...	6,858 2 0	6,661 15 9	
Of establishment ...	1,157 3 0	871 10 0	
6. Supplies and services—			
Forms ...			
Tents ...			
Petty construction ...			
" repairs... ..			
7. Contingencies—	5,012 1 7	11,469 3 7	
Hot-weather charges ...			
Office rent ...			
Service telegrams ...			
" postage charges ...			
&c. &c. &c.			
	83,223 11 7	90,099 12 5	

III (a).—CUTTACK AND PURI, INCLUDING KHURDA.

Financial Statement for year ending 30th September 1896.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Expenditure in the previous year (against each sub-head).	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4
1. Pay and special allowance with travelling allowance of—	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Settlement Officer ...	11,391 6 0	20,340 12 10	
Assistant Settlement Officers ...	35,288 5 2	71,663 3 7	
2. Fixed establishment with their travelling allowance ...	7,793 3 9	7,422 11 5	
3. Temporary establishment with their travelling allowance ...	45,567 6 4	70,672 9 5	
4. Contract and job work ...	4,086 12 4	20,794 9 0	
5. Travelling allowance—			
Of officers ...			
Of establishment ...			
6. Supplies and services—			
Forms ...			
Tents ...			
Petty construction ...			
„ repairs ...	6,058 3 9	28,968 7 6	
7. Contingencies—			
Hot-weather charges ...			
Office rent ...			
Service telegrams ...			
„ postage charges ...			
&c. &c. &c.			
	1,10,185 5 4	2,19,862 5 9	

III (b).—ORISSA DIVISION.

Expenditure up to end of the year ending 30th September 1896.

	Expenditure in the previous year.	Expenditure during the year.	
1	2	3	4
1. Pay and allowance, with travelling allowance of Settlement Officer ...	Rs. A. P. 11,391 6 0	Rs. A. P. 20,340 12 10	
2. Pay and allowance of Assistant Settlement Officers, with their travelling allowance ...	76,387 12 7	1,11,534 11 4	
3. Pay and travelling allowance of establishment ...	90,472 12 8	1,10,274 0 4	
4. Contract and job work ...	4,086 12 4	27,374 14 7	
5. Contingencies ...	11,070 5 4	40,437 11 1	
Total ...	1,93,409 0 11	3,09,962 2 2	

APPENDIX III.

No. 580G.S., dated Chittagong, the 9th October 1896.

From—C. G. H. ALLEN, Esq., Settlement Officer, Chittagong,
To—The Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.

As directed in your circular No. 53S., dated 11th September 1896, and with reference to rule 10 of Chapter V, Part I of the Survey and Settlement Manual of 1895, I have the honour to submit the Annual Report for the year ending 30th September 1896. The report is due on the 15th of October. Some difficulty has been experienced in submitting it in advance of the prescribed date. It has also not been possible to check all the figures as completely as could have been wished.

Preliminary.

2. Survey and attestation having been completed previous to the year under report, the following are the main heads under which work has been done:—

Main heads of work.

- (a) Mahal milan, or adjustment of areas of estates according to the areas recorded in previous settlement.
- (b) Assessment.
- (c) Publication.
- (d) Fairing of records.

Statements submitted.

3. I submit the following statements:—

- (1) *Statement A.*—This is the one required for Appendix I of the Director of Land Records' report.
- (2) *Statement B.*—Shewing progress in mahal milan.
- (3) *Statement C (Old Statement IV).*—Assessment.
- (4) *Statement D (Form 15, revised).*—Publication.
- (5) *Statement E (Form 15(2)).*—Of cases.
- (6) *Statement F (Form 15(3)).*—Of expenditure.
- (7) *Statement G.*—Status and rent of tenants.
- (8) *Statement H (Old Form IV(a)).*—Showing effect of assessment on rentals.
- (9) *Statement I (Old Form IV(b)).*—Showing effect of assessment on Government revenue.
- (10) *Statement J.*—Showing progress in fairing records.

4. Mr. Stevenson-Moore was in charge of the settlement up to the 13th November 1895, when I took over charge. I remained in charge until the end of the year.

Administration.

Staff and its distribution.

5. The staff consisted of five Assistant Settlement Officers:—

Babu Durga Charan Ghose was in charge of the Belgaon, South Patiya, Anwara, and North-East Patiya Circles;

Babu Sarat Chandra Das of the North and South Satkania, North Patiya, South Raujan and Rangonia Circles;

Babu Hari Pada Ghose of the Mirkesarai and Kumira Circles, and of mahal milan in part of the East Town Circle;

Babu Sasi Mohan Talukdar of the Fatikchari and North Hathazari Circles, and Babu Annada Charan Das of the North Raujan and South Hathazari Circles.

I myself retained charge of the Jaldi, Sangu and East Patiya Circles, and of mahal milan in the West Town Circle and in the Chittagong Municipality.

6. *Mahal milan.*—One thousand and thirty-nine villages have now been accounted for, three having been identified during the year. Of these the work had been completed in 757 villages previous to the year, and was done in 185 villages during the year, so that 942 villages have been completed. The remaining 97 villages are in hand.

Progress in mahal milan.

7. *Assessment.*—Of the 1,039 villages in the district, 4 contain no noabad, so that assessment has to be done in 1,035 villages. The number of noabad tenants in these villages is now estimated at 245,276. Work had been completed

Progress in assessment.

for 442 villages with 106,719 tenants previous to the year, and 253 villages with 71,067 tenants were assessed during the year. Assessment has therefore been completed for 695 villages with 177,786 tenants, and remains to be done for 340 villages with 67,490 tenants.

8. *Publication*.—Records of 255 villages had been finally published previous to the year under report, and 252 villages have been done during the year. The total number finally published is therefore 507, leaving 532 villages to be done. Of the latter number records of 103 villages have been published in draft.

9. *Fair copies of records*.—The records of 301 villages have been deposited in the head office. Of these, records of 112 had been copied into the continuous khatian forms before this procedure stopped. These records will have again to be copied in forms, the counterpart of the originals, for deposit in the Collector's record-room. The copies already made can be supplied to the landlords. In future the records will be copied before final publication. The final terij has been prepared of 112 villages, and khatians of 120 villages have been copied for supply to raiyats.

10. Figures for talukdars, ijaradars and direct-paying jotedars will be found in columns 3—14 of Statement I.

(a) Talukdars' rents have been enhanced upon the whole by 64 per cent.

Talukdars. The increase is the largest in North and South Satkania, South Raujan, North Raujan and Mirkesarai and Kumira Circles. In the two first-named circles the large increase is due partly to the low rate at the previous settlement, and partly to large increase of cultivation. In Raujan, except towards the hills, the lands are extremely fertile, and it has been necessary to give large allowances to the talukdars to avoid immoderate enhancement. In Mirkesarai and Kumira the high rate of enhancement is probably due to an abnormally low average rate of assessment at last settlement.

(b) The ijaradars' rents have been enhanced by 11 per cent. The ijaras were settled in 1881 by Mr. Fasson, and the enhancements are therefore smaller than those of taluks, the majority of which were settled 50 years ago.

(c) *Jotedars*.—The total rate of enhancement is 22 per cent. The rate is highest in North Raujan, South Satkania, Rangonia, South Hathazari and Sangu. In Sangu the mistake of including new rents of tenants who previously paid no rent appears to have been made, and this mistake has probably been repeated in other circles. There is a very large area of *char* lands in the Sangu Circle for which no rents were recorded at the time of attestation. In other circles the increase is mainly due, not to enhancement of rate, but to increase of area.

11. Similar figures for tenants subordinate to talukdars and ijaradars are contained in Statement H.

(a) Under-tenure-holders' rents have been enhanced by 47 per cent. The large increase in North-East Patiya is nominal. In Rangonia and Mirkesarai previous rates of rent were extremely low.

(b) Raiyats' rents are enhanced 9 per cent. The largest increases are in the North Raujan, South Satkania, North Satkania, North Patiya, South Raujan, and Rangonia Circles. Assessment in all these circles, except North Raujan, was done by Babu Sarat Chandra Das. In North Raujan, out of a gross increase of Rs. 2,035, Rs. 1,809 was due to increase of area, and only Rs. 226 to

increase of rate. In South Satkania Rs. 100 out of Rs. 105 increase was due to increase of area, and the same cause is responsible for Rs. 276 out of Rs. 286 increase in North Satkania, for Rs. 900 out of Rs. 1,182 in North Patiya, for Rs. 442 out of Rs. 549 in South Rajan, and for Rs. 1,330 out of Rs. 1,863 in Rangonia.

The Rs. 10,092 which represents the gross increase of raiyati rents in all the circles is made up of Rs. 8,095 assessed upon increased area, and of only Rs. 1,997 due to increase of rent. In Sangu the large decreases are due to diluvion, the villages assessed lying on both banks of the shifting river Sangu.

(c) Under-raiyats' rents are increased by 6 per cent., the largest increases being in Kumira and North-East Patiya. In the latter circle the figures are small, and in no circle do they call for special comment.

12. The net increase is Rs. 1,40,342, representing an increase of 47 per cent. on the previous revenue of Rs. 2,98,378. The increase has been largest in the Satkania, North-East Patiya and Mirkesarai circles. The increase in Satkania and Mirkesarai has already been explained. In North-East Patiya the figures are small. The revenue of the noabad mahal was, in 1889, prior to the commencement of this resettlement, Rs. 3,85,290. If the present rate of enhancement, viz., 47 per cent., is maintained, the enhancement due to the resettlement may be expected to reach Rs. 1,81,000.

13. Taking assessment as a whole, it may be said that there has been no alteration of the principles and methods of working, which have been previously described. These are that existing rates of rent of raiyats are ordinarily maintained, unless they are proved to be collusively unfair. Rents of raiyats are increased wherever it is proved that they hold land in excess of the areas for which they pay rent. The rents of talukdars and ijaradars are assessed upon the basis of the assets arrived at by adding to the rents of their subordinate raiyats the fair rent assessed upon the areas held by them direct. From the assets so calculated, a percentage of profit is deducted, at a rate adjusted to the circumstances of each taluk, and the balance is assessed as the rent payable by the talukdar or ijaradar to Government. Factors which are considered in estimating a fair rate of profit to be allowed to the talukdar are—(1) the rent at last settlement, care being taken to avoid immoderate enhancements; (2) the rate of raiyati rents, a generally level rate of assessment being arrived at for lands of similar quality, and percentages of profit being increased when raiyats' rents are abnormally high, and (3) any special circumstances necessitating expenditure of capital by the talukdars, *e.g.*, proximity to the sea-board, and consequent expenditure on embankments. The minimum rate of profit allowed is 30 per cent. These rates in all cases include cost of collection.

Under-tenures are assessed on similar principles, though the minimum rate of profit allowed is 15 per cent. These under-tenures not being ordinarily binding upon the Government after resettlement, the rents paid by their raiyats, and not the rents of the under-tenure-holders, are included in the assets of a taluk. In practice, however, when a portion of the talukdar's profits are absorbed by under-tenure-holders, the rate of the talukdar's profit is generally increased. Weekly statements are submitted to me by each Assistant Settlement Officer, showing in detail the rents assessed during the week upon each talukdar, ijaradar and under-tenure-holder.

Upon these I pass orders, and, if the enhancement seems to be excessive in any case, I reduce it. I also receive petitions for reduction of rents, either direct or forwarded to me by the Collector, and I consider each case upon its merits, and not infrequently reduce the rents assessed.

There have been practically no appeals to the Special Judge on the ground of excessive enhancements.

On the whole, the system is working smoothly.

14. The Collector and the Khas Tahsildars have lent us every assistance, and the rapidity with which the new rents have been brought on to the khas tahsil rent-rolls and realized is, I venture to think, very creditable. It is worth noting, in passing, that this is the first settlement in Chittagong in which the newly assessed rents have been realized during the progress of the settlement. For instance, the enormous enhancement obtained by Mr. Harvey in Ramu in 1838 was not brought upon the revenue-roll until ten years later, Mr. Harvey placing it on record that it would cause hopeless confusion to alter the rent-roll of the district piecemeal. Similar delays, resulting in a large loss of revenue, occurred after Mr. Fasson's settlement.

During the present settlement, every effort is made each year to finally publish the records of as many villages as possible before the end of each agricultural year; lists of the new rents are then at once sent to the Khas Tahsildar concerned, and he rewrites his rent-roll upon the basis of these lists. This system is not carried out without difficulty, but on the whole it has worked successfully owing to the willing co-operation of the Collector and his subordinates, and to the efficiency of the khas tahsil system in this district.

15. The outturn of the Settlement Officer and of each Assistant Settlement Officer under the main heads of work is shown in the following figures:—

Name of Revenue Officer.	Circles.	Number of villages of which mahal has been done during the year.	Number of tenants settled during the year.	PUBLICATION.		CASE WORK.		Number of days on tour.
				Draft.	Final.	Objections.	Disputes.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Mr. C. G. H. Allen ...	Sangu, South-East Patiya, East Town, West Town.	3	4,363	18	.....	804	.....	167
Babu Durga Charan Ghose.	Anwara, South Patiya, South-East Patiya.	83	14,041	73	65	100	14	327
Babu Sarat Chandra Das.	Rangonia, South Ranjan, North Patiya, North and South Saikania.	36	17,406	69	69	704	11	334
Babu Sasi Mohan Talukdar.	Fatikchhari, North Hathazari.	23	10,936	23	22	831	.....	318
Babu Hari Pada Ghose.	Mirkesarai, Kumira ...	40	11,882	52	63	99	12	330
Babu Annada Charan Das.	North Ranjan, South Hathazari.	.....	12,409	48	33	1,509	.....	284
		185	71,067	283	252	4,047	37	1,760

16. The scale of assessment settled by Mr. Stevenson-Moore in his forecast for the survey year under report was for—

Babu Durga Charan Ghose, and Babu Sarat Chandra Das ... } 1,500 tenants per month.
and for—
Babu Sasi Mohan Talukdur ... }
„ Hari Pada Ghose ... } 1,000 tenants each.
„ Annada Charan Das ... }

The total scale is therefore 6,000 tenants a month. As the outturn during the year was 71,067, this forecast was nearly attained. Babu Sarat Chandra Das with 17,406 tenants was but little below scale. I have been thoroughly satisfied with this officer's work. His supervision over his subordinates is keen and methodical, and, in spite of ill-health, he has worked throughout the year steadily and successfully. Babu Durga Charan Ghose has to some extent been handicapped by bad mahal milan work done by Babu Behari Lal Ghosal in South Patiya. I think he somewhat unnecessarily delayed commencement of assessment in Anwara, and this has reduced his outturn. His work has been of good quality, and I am satisfied with it.

Babu Hari Pada Ghose has nearly accomplished his scale. The Mirkesarai Circle is probably in some ways the most difficult in the district. The measurements of 1838 were here extremely inaccurate: the boundaries of villages are excessively complicated, the

system of *alahida* villages widely prevailing, and there are some very difficult cases of alluvion and diluvion upon the sea-board. These difficulties are aggravated by the system of area units; a quadruple and triple kani, as well as the ordinary kani ($\frac{1}{4}$ of an acre), being in vogue. Under these circumstances

Babu Sasi Mohan Talukdar.

I consider this officer's outturn satisfactory. Babu Sasi Mohan Talukdar's outturn shows the usual result of want of method, which, by postponing difficulties, delays the completion of the work of a circle. His progress has latterly shown signs of improvement.

Babu Annada Charan Das has worked up to his scale. Considering that his experience is small, and that he was considerably handicapped by bad mahal milan work done

Babu Annada Charan Das.

by kanungo Babu Uma Charan Chakravarti in Raujan, I consider that the result is creditable to him.

Effect of the average size of taluks upon progress in assessment.

Generally speaking, in considering an officer's outturn of assessment, the main factor, apart from bad work at previous stages, is the size of the taluks. A taluk with 100 raiyats takes no more time to assess than, say, six taluks with no raiyats; for the bulk of the raiyats' rents are accepted as fair, and when they are increased, the raiyat usually acquiesces. It is different with the talukdar, who always has to be reasoned into acquiescence. The difference in the comparative size of the taluks in different parts of the district is considerable, the average rental varying from Rs. 2 in Patiya, to Rs. 8 in Kumira and Rangonia, Rs. 15 in Mirkesarai and Fatikchhari, Rs. 20 in North Satkania, and Rs. 63 in South Satkania.

In Cox's Bazar, the average rental is much larger; the rent of 166 taluks in Ramu having been assessed at Rs. 48,682, giving an average rental of Rs. 293.

17. I continued settlement of rents in the Sangu Circle, and commenced work in East Patiya. I was unable to spare much time for assessment.

Progress of assessment in the various circles.

Babu Durga Charan Ghose completed South Patiya, and made good progress in Anwara and North-East Patiya. Babu Sarat Chandra Das completed North and South Satkania, and made progress in the South Raujan, North Patiya and Rangonia Circles.

Babu Hari Pada Ghose nearly completed assessment in Mirkesarai, and made progress in Kumira. Babu Sasi Mohan Talukdar nearly completed assessment in Fatikchhari, and made some progress in Hathazari.

Babu Annada Charan Das nearly completed assessment in North Raujan, and commenced work in South Hathazari.

18. Taking the district as a whole, work has been completed south of the Sangu, except in three small villages in Maiskhal, two in Ramu, and three in the Sangu Circle.

Progress in the district.

North of the Sangu assessment has been almost completed in Mirkesarai, Fatikchhari, and North Raujan.

In the Kumira, Hathazari, East Patiya, Anwara, South Raujan, Sangu, and North Patiya Circles rather less than half the assessment has been done, and the work has not yet commenced in the Town thana, or in Maiskhal.

19. It is not easy to compare the results in detail with the forecast contained in Mr. Stevenson-Moore's letter No. 464G.S., dated the 3rd August 1895.

Progress compared with forecast.

I have already, in paragraph 14 above, showed how far each officer has worked according to scale.

Babu Durga Charan Ghose was to complete West Patiya by September 1896. Of this circle the northern portion with

Babu Durga Charan Ghose.

8,493 tenants was given to Babu Sarat Chandra Das. Babu Durga Charan Ghose has completed South Patiya (with the exception of 121 tenants), and has assessed 7,502 tenants in Anwara and North-East Patiya.

Babu Sarat Chandra Das completed Satkania. He was also to do East Patiya with 12,654 tenants. Instead of this he has

Babu Sarat Chandra Das.

done 15,847 tenants in North Patiya, South Raujan and Rangonia.

Babu Hari Pada Ghose was to complete Mirkasarai and Kumira and do half of Anwara. But the number of tenants in both the former circles was seriously under estimated. He has nearly worked up to his scale of 1,000 tenants a month.

Babu Sasi Mohan Talukdar was to complete Fatikchari, and do 4,000 tenants in Hathazari. He has still 1,037 tenants to do in Fatikchari but has assessed 4,399 tenants in Hathazari.

Mr. Stevenson-Moore estimated that only 26,569 tenants would remain to be assessed at the end of the survey year under report, but this estimate was probably based on the assumption that the number of noabad tenants in the district was 212,655 (column 5 of Statement B of last year's report), whereas we now know it to be 245,276.

On the whole the forecast has been nearly worked up to:

20. I took over charge on the 13th November 1895, and was on tour for 167 days during the year. On the 12th September 1896, I took over charge of the office of Magistrate-Collector in addition to my duties as Settlement Officer.

The Assistant Settlement Officers were practically continuously in camp.

Babu Durga Charan Ghose was on tour for	...	...	327 days.
" Sarat Chandra Das	...	...	334 "
" Hari Pada Ghose	...	...	330 "
" Sasi Mohan Talukdar	...	...	318 "
" Annada Charan Das	...	...	284 "

The latter commenced work on the 1st November 1895, and was at headquarters for 16 days and on leave for 35 days.

I venture to think that all the Assistant Settlement Officers deserve credit for a great deal of hard work done throughout the year, in exposure to an unhealthy climate.

21. The expenditure during the year was—

Expenditure.

			Rs.	A.	P.
On Survey	...	...	1,556	5	4
On Settlement	...	...	1,46,726	10	2
Total	...	...	1,48,282	15	6

The estimate was Rs. 1,66,275 (column 14 of Statement A enclosed with this office letter No. 464G.S., dated the 3rd August 1895), so there has been a saving of Rs. 17,992-0-6.

The expenditure since the commencement of the operations has been—

		Survey.	Settlement.
		Rs.	Rs.
Up to the end of September 1895	...	5,25,985	6,68,935
During the year under report	...	1,556	1,46,727
Total up to 30th September 1896	...	5,27,541	8,05,662
GRAND TOTAL	...	13,33,203	

STATEMENT B.

Showing the progress in Mahal Milan, or adjustment of the areas of estates for the year ending 30th September 1886.

Circles.	Officers employed.	Total number of villages.	VILLAGES OF WHICH MAHAL MILAN HAVE BEEN COMPLETED.			Remaining.	REMARKS.
			Previous to year.	During year.	Total.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
I. Circles completed previous to year under report.	.....	399	399	.....	(a) 399	.....	(a) The Jaldi, Sangu, North and South Satkania, Ramu, Chakaria, Kutubdia, Toknañ, Belgason and Rajan Circles.
II. Circles in progress during the year—							
Kumira	Babu Hari Pada Ghose	43	7	33	40	3	
East Town	Mr. C. G. H. Allen	13	(b) 3	.....	3	11	(b) Twenty-seven kismats out of 34 in the Municipality have been done. Six villages were shown by mistake in last year's return, kismats being reckoned as villages.
Hathazari	Babu Sasi Mohan Talukdar	51	21	29	31	20	
Fatkehari	Ditto ditto	74	71	3	74	.....	
North and South Patiya.	Babus Sarat Chandra Das and Durga Charan Ghose.	110	98	11	109	1	(c) One village has been transferred to the Kumira Circle.
East Patiya	Babu Durga Charan Ghose	88	31	32	63	25	
Anwara	Ditto ditto	66	7	40	47	19	(d) The Maikhal Circle.
Rangonia	Babu Sarat Chandra Das	44	6	36	42	2	
West Town	Mr. C. G. H. Allen	(e) 21	5	3	6	13	(e) The number of villages shown last year was 1,036. Three missing villages have been accounted for this year.
Mirkesarai	Babu Hari Pada Ghose	126	119	7	126	.....	(f) The number is reduced from 700 in last year's return, by correction of the figure of the East Town Circle.
	Total	637	359	185	543	94	
II. Circle not commenced	.....	(d) 3	.....	.....	.....	3	
	GRAND TOTAL	(e) 1,039	(f) 787	185	942	97	

STATEMENT C.

(OLD STATEMENT IV.)

Showing progress in assessment.

CIRCLE.	Name of Revenue Officer.	Area in square miles.	Total number of villages containing no bad tenants.	Total number of tenants.	COMPLETED TO END OF SEPTEMBER 1895.		DURING THE CURRENT SURVEY YEAR.		TOTAL COMPLETED.		REMAINING.		REMARKS WITH NOTE OF APPEALS, IF ANY.
					Villages.	Tenants.	Villages.	Tenants.	Villages (6+8).	Tenants (7+9).	Villages (4).	Tenants (5).	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
I.—Circles completed previous to year under report (a)													
II.—Circles under assessment during the year—													
North Sankaria	Babu Sarat Chandra Das	108.71	133	8,345	133	39,331	4	400	133	39,331	..	.....	(a) Jaldi, Chakaria, Teknaff, Kutabdia, and Belgachan Circles. Seven tenants were shown last year as pending in three villages in the Jaldi Circle by mistake. The circle was completed last year. Of the figures in this cross-heading are revised figures.
North Sankaria	"	109.02	84	10,279	30	7,045	99	1,150	62	8,345	.....	.....	(b) Some of the figures in this cross-heading are revised figures.
North Sankaria	"	109.16	62	9,120	33	9,120	11	6,150	112	10,279	.....	.....	(c) Revised figure. West Town has been transferred to Kumira Circle, and two villages have been identified.
Kirkeeerat	"	104.51	126	19,143	101	12,080	29	5,702	20	18,969	.....	.....	(d) One village of West Town has been transferred to Kumira Circle, and two villages have been identified.
Patikhar	"	108.63	74	7,332	25	14,736	38	6,537	63	21,263	11	1,630	(e) The Hathazari Circle has been subdivided during the year into the North and South Hathazari Circles.
North Patiya (a)	"	60.12	37	12,853	20	5,124	4	4,380	4	4,380	33	8,454	(f) The West Patiya Circle has been subdivided during the year into the South Patiya and North Patiya Circles.
North Patiya (a)	"	58.54	79	11,784	20	5,124	46	6,530	75	11,663	4	121	(g) During the year the East Patiya Circle has been subdivided into the South-East and North-East Patiya Circles.
North-East Patiya (a)	"	15.28	22	4,575	30	5,820	33	11,104	63	17,014	7	1,878	(h) The Rajan Circle has been subdivided into the North and South Rajan Circles during the year.
North Rajan (a)	"	93.37	66	12,144	30	5,820	2	2,976	21	4,394	13	2,363	(i) The Maikhal, East and West Town Circles.
South Hathazari (a)	"	25.81	14	6,569	13	1,418	8	1,417	48	11,146	2	424	(j) Of the 1,039 villages in the district, 5 contain no noabad.
Sangu	Mr. C. G. H. Allen	58.54	66	6,767	48	11,146	.....	.....	8	5,990	23	2,563	
South-East Patiya (a)	"	58.51	50	11,570	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2,576	10	777	
Ranu	"	245.77	31	8,403	.....	.....	.....	.....	18	7,281	26	5,233	
North Patiya	Babu Sarat Chandra Das	34.56	12	3,353	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
South Patiya	"	10.94	44	12,514	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
South Rajan	"	97.15	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Bangonia	"	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
	Total	1,427.78	564	101,663	309	67,388	253	71,067	562	138,456	302	58,208	
	.....	88.68	38	14,282	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	38	14,282	
III.—Circles not commenced (i).	GRAND TOTAL	1,910.01	(j) 1,035	(c) 246,276	(c) 442	(c) 106,719	253	71,067	605	177,786	340	67,400	

STATEMENT D.
(FORM 15, REVISED.)

Showing progress in Publication of the Records.

NAME OF CIRCLE.	Name of Revenue Officer.	Number of villages.	Area of the circles in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT PUBLISHED.			NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED.			REMARKS.
				Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
I.—Circles completed previous to the year under report.	.....	(a) 135	396.55	135	.....	135	135	.....	135	(a) Jaldi, Belgaon, Chakaria, Tekraff, and Kutubdia Circles.
II.—Partially completed circles—										
Mirkesarai	Babu Hari Pada Ghose ...	126	100.16	79	35	114	19	59	78	
Kumira	Ditto	43	94.51	.....	17	17	.....	4	4	
Patikchari	" Sasi Mohan Talukdar ...	71	198.02	36	23	59	24	22	46	
South Patiya	" Durga Charan Ghose ...	79	57.54	.....	73	73	.....	65	65	
North Rajan	" Annada Charan Das ...	70	93.37	.....	48	48	.....	33	33	
South-East Patiya	Mr. C. G. H. Allen	66	83.51	.....	7	7	.....	.....	.....	
Sangu	Ditto	34	58.54	.....	11	11	.....	.....	.....	
Ramu	Ditto	50	245.77	48	.....	48	48	.....	48	
South Satkania	Babu Sarat Chandra Das ...	34	103.71	29	5	34	29	5	34	
North "	Ditto	64	102.05	.....	64	64	.....	64	64	
	Total	640	1,146.78	192	283	475	120	262	372	
III.—Circles not yet commenced ...	.....	(b) 264	360.68	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(b) East and West Town, South Rajan, Rangonia, North Patiya, Hathazari, Mais-khal, North-East Patiya.
	GRAND TOTAL ...	1,039	1,910.01	327	283	610	255	262	507	

STATEMENT E.

(FORM 15 (2).)

Annual Return of Objections under section 105 and Disputes under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Nature of case.	Number instituted up to the end of previous year.	Number instituted during the year.	Total.	Number disposed of to end of previous year.	Number disposed of during the year.	Total.	Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
										Instituted.	Decided.	Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Settlement Officer ...		(1) Objections heard and considered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act.	1,004	888	1,892	902	804	1,706	186						
		(2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	168	.....	168	168	.....	168	.....						
		Total ...	1,172	888	2,060	1,070	804	1,874	186	...	...	...	...	...	
Babu Durga Charan Ghose.		(1) Objections, &c. ...	1,362	39	1,301	1,201	100	1,301	.....						
		(2) Disputes, &c. ...	188	1	189	167	14	181	8						
		Total ...	1,450	40	1,490	1,368	114	1,482	8	...	...	...	...	...	
Babu Sarat Chandra Das.		(1) Objections, &c. ...	2,572	555	3,127	2,423	704	3,127	.....						
		(2) Disputes, &c. ...	97	8	105	91	11	102	3						
		Total ...	2,669	563	3,232	2,514	715	3,229	3	...	...	...	...	...	
Babu Sasi Mohan Talukdar.		(1) Objections, &c. ...	1,758	800	2,558	1,566	831	2,397	161						
		(2) Disputes, &c. ...	4	.....	4	4	.....	4	.....						
		Total ...	1,762	800	2,562	1,570	831	2,401	161	...	...	...	...	...	
Babu Hari Pada Ghose		(1) Objections &c. ...	230	107	337	204	99	303	34						
		(2) Disputes, &c. ...	22	14	36	20	12	32	4						
		Total ...	252	121	373	224	111	335	38	...	...	...	...	...	
Babu Annada Charan Das.		(1) Objections, &c. ...	.....	1,819	1,819	.....	1,509	1,509	310						
		(2) Disputes, &c. ...	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	1						
		Total ...	.....	1,820	1,820	.....	1,509	1,509	311	...	...	...	...	...	
Total ... {		(1) Objections ...	6,826	4,208	11,034	6,296	4,047	10,343	691	...	...	...	...	...	
		(2) Disputes ...	479	24	503	450	37	487	16	...	...	...	...	...	
		GRAND TOTAL ...	7,305	4,232	11,537	6,746	4,084	10,830	707	...	...	...	...	...	

STATEMENT F.

(FORM 15(3.))

Annual Financial Statement ending 30th September 1896.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment (against each sub-head).	Expenditure to end of the previous year (against each sub-head) for survey year 1894-95.	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head) for survey year 1895-96.	Balance remaining (against each sub-head).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Pay and special allowance of—					
Settlement Officer ...	21,000	16,406 4 10	19,063 4 9	1,936 11 3	
Assistant Settlement Officers ...	18,000	21,722 11 5	15,979 4 5	2,020 11 7	
2. Fixed establishment ...	42,624	50,636 6 5	46,329 15 5	.....	
3. Temporary establishment ...	48,233	21,324 0 11	37,174 7 3	11,058 8 9	
4. Contract and job work ...					
5. Travelling allowance—					
Of officers ...	11,100	8,844 2 0	7,803 2 0	3,236 14 0	
Of establishment ...	11,520	10,814 6 0	11,095 11 0	424 5 0	
6. Supplies and services—					
Forms ...		676 15 3	.....	.....	
Tents ...		436 14 6	222 8 0	.....	
Petty construction ...		870 13 9	1,328 2 6	.....	
repairs ...		209 7 11	327 13 6	.....	
7. Contingencies—					
Hot-weather charges ...	10,614	119 0 0	112 1 0	.....	
Office rent ...		123 2 8	110 13 11	.....	
Service telegrams ...		77 1 0	42 11 0	.....	
postage charges ...		843 14 0	1,494 13 6	.....	
Miscellaneous ...		7,191 7 8	7,138 3 3	.....	
Total ...	1,63,091	1,40,406 11 11	1,48,282 15 6	18,677 2 7	

STATEMENT G.

Statement showing the Status and Rent of Tenants as recorded in the Khatians from the commencement of the settlement to the close of the year under report.

Class of Cultivator.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LANDS.				
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class.	Average area of cultivated lands per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per cultivated acre.
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Acres.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.
1. Proprietor's sîr (nij-jote) ...	8,015	6,607.74	.82	.....	.....
2. Held by proprietors, but not true sîr.	28,865	31,628.40	1.09	.....	.....
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders.	144,079	159,253.20	1.90	4,60,442	2 14 3
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents.	97,947	89,432.55	.91	3,74,984	4 3 0
5. Settled raiyats ...	291,292	236,975.84	.81	10,89,214	4 9 6
6. Occupancy raiyats ...	9,658	12,459.04	1.29	44,791	3 9 6
7. Non-occupancy raiyats ...	26,333	18,397.27	.69	1,10,224	5 15 10
8. Rent-free holders ...	8,638	9,164.16	.06	.....	.....
Total ...	614,827	563,916.20	.91	20,87,724	3 11 2

STATEMENT H.
(OLD FORM IV(a).)
Showing the effect of the Assessment on Tenants' Rentals during the year under report.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	CIRCLE.	TENANTS WHO FORMERLY PAID RENT.										EFFECT OF ASSESSMENT ON RAIYATS' RENTALS.					TENANTS WHO FORMERLY PAID NO RENT.		REMARKS.	
		Under tenure-holders.			Percentage of net increase.	Raiyats including noabed jotedars.			Percentage of net increase.	Under-raiyats.			Increase.	Decrease.	Increase due to—		Number.	Rent.		
		Number.	Old rent.	New rent.		Number.	Old rent.	New rent.		Increase of area.	Enhancement of rate.									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Babu Hari Pada Ghose.	Mirkesarai	142	Rs. 738	Rs. 1,225	65.98	3,066	Rs. 12,092	Rs. 12,693	6.40	2,175	Rs. 7,254	Rs. 7,775	7.18	Rs. 897	Rs. 238	Rs. 766	Rs. 131	533	Rs. 2,577	
Ditto	Kumira	65	468	715	56.11	3,910	4,765	5,403	13.38	1,171	1,005	1,141	13.53	787	149	407	380	175	207	
Babu Sasi Mohan Talukdar.	Fatikchari	195	1,277	1,821	42.59	4,518	8,518	9,306	9.25	588	852	854	23	892	14	705	96	465	1,017	
Ditto	North Hathazari	3	20	31	55	3,163	3,924	4,170	6.26	475	590	590	.....	273	27	298	5	279	396	
Babu Durga Charan Ghose.	South Patiya	1	3	3	.....	4,398	8,827	9,114	3.25	435	1,022	1,067	4.40	287	.....	260	27	217	232	
Ditto	North-East Patiya	2	21	44	109.52	405	703	777	10.52	58	99	121	23.23	74	.....	69	5	139	141	
Ditto	Anwara	47	135	191	41.48	4,049	9,027	9,302	3.04	459	680	682	1.76	276	1	222	54	77	131	
Babu Annada Charan Das.	North Ranjan	409	1,479	2,137	44	7,872	13,988	16,003	14	1,130	1,735	1,897	5	2,035	20	1,809	226	455	496	
Ditto	South Hathazari	10	65	66	1	1,051	1,204	1,328	10	29	35	35	.....	124	.....	124	.....	5	6	
Mr. C. G. H. Allen	South-East Patiya	2	22	27	22	735	1,030	1,106	7.37	141	209	224	7.61	76	.....	58	18	45	69	
Ditto	Sanku	17	148	168	6	1,666	5,092	4,714	.....	433	1,001	1,060	5	476	854	368	118	395	1,587	
Babu Sarat Chandra Das.	South Satkania	19	315	439	55.23	249	628	733	16.71	7	9	9	.....	105	.....	100	5	111	149	
Ditto	North Satkania	17	687	934	35.95	568	1,064	1,380	26.14	278	677	687	1.47	286	.....	276	10	67	171	
Ditto	" Patiya	6	40	45	12.50	3,675	6,706	7,888	17.63	741	852	863	1.29	1,182	.....	900	282	366	880	
Ditto	South Ranjan	14	87	118	20.88	1,585	3,121	3,670	17.69	402	433	442	2	1,182	.....	442	107	128	141	
Ditto	Rangunia	42	335	603	80.00	4,369	9,741	11,604	19.12	1,557	2,689	2,931	8.99	1,863	.....	1,330	533	849	1,583	
	Total	990	6,830	8,692	47	46,349	90,400	99,191	9	10,075	19,201	20,388	6	10,092	1,801	8,095	1,997	4,296	9,293	

STATEMENT I.
(Old Form IV(b).)

Showing the effect of the Assessment on the Government Revenue.

GIRAJ.	Name of Revenue Officer.	TALUKDAR			Percentage of net increase.	ISARADAR.			Percentage of net increase.	JOTEDARS PAYING DIRECT.			Percentage of rent increase.	TENANTS WHO FORMERLY PAID NO RENT.		Number.	TOTAL.		Increase.	Decrease.	Net increase.	Percentage of net increase.	REMARKS.
		Number.	Old rent.	New rent.		Number.	Old rent.	New rent.		Number.	Old rent.	New rent.											
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
I.—Total previous to year under report.	.....	12,157	Rs. 1,35,195	Rs. 2,22,809	35	155	Rs. 17,551	Rs. 19,855	13	18,720	Rs. 92,871	Rs. 1,13,591	22	.....	...	31,032	Rs. 2,45,617	Rs. 3,56,415	Rs. 1,11,532	Rs. 724	Rs. 1,10,798	45	
II.—During the year under report.																							
Kumra ..	Babu H. P. Ghose	247	2,040	8,689	80	17	897	760	.....	583	2,400	2,768	15	117	2,208	964	5,337	9,425	4,359	301	4,088	76	
Kumra ..	Ditto	307	1,282	2,451	91	24	654	711	8	217	330	390	18	50	132	598	2,246	3,084	1,431	13	1,431	62	
Kumra ..	Babu S. M. Talukdar	768	8,745	12,064	37	8	122	129	5.73	1,207	2,167	2,415	11.44	418	960	2,486	11,034	15,568	4,542	8	4,534	41.09	
North Hathazari ..	Ditto	478	815	1,224	62	1	9	9	.....	1,568	1,789	1,996	11.57	12	23	2,059	2,013	8,351	744	6	738	28.24	
North Paliya ..	Babu D. C. Ghose	1,483	2,613	4,023	51	4	20	24	20.	441	592	594	.....	75	80	2,003	8,205	4,731	1,456	...	1,456	44.59	
North-East Paliya ..	Ditto	1,167	2,936	3,714	65	1	6	6	.....	36	11	11	.....	53	100	2,257	2,243	4,311	243	...	248	2.	
North-West Paliya ..	Ditto	1,099	8,026	4,482	48	0	87	88	1.14	302	499	432	69	11	13	1,421	3,542	5,015	1,473	...	1,473	41.53	
North-East Paliya ..	Babu A. C. Das	1,326	4,217	7,910	87.	2	86	103	13.73	2,947	8,842	6,095	32.03	455	406	4,730	8,145	13,605	5,460	...	5,460	67.03	
North-East Paliya ..	Ditto	120	440	627	40	...	...	...	...	463	311	379	21.86	5	6	528	757	1,012	255	...	255	33.81	
South-East Paliya ..	Mr. Allen	359	600	863	43	2	21	21	.....	144	117	134	14	24	37	1,333	2,414	3,878	1,695	...	1,695	48	
South-East Paliya ..	Ditto	433	1,351	2,219	66	5	183	210	14	795	910	1,419	55	...	...	1,972	1,515	2,107	592	...	592	39	
South-East Paliya ..	Babu S. C. Das	447	520	938	80	...	...	...	...	573	995	1,097	10	...	72	1,972	1,515	2,107	592	...	592	39	
South-East Paliya ..	Ditto	420	2,250	3,427	52	14	218	288	32	1,210	1,983	2,450	23	456	1,978	2,140	4,446	7,537	8,091	...	8,091	69	
North Saktania ..	Ditto	231	2,147	4,677	117	13	386	469	5	25	60	79	31	5	7	437	2,905	5,577	2,674	...	2,674	92.	
South Saktania ..	Ditto	13	349	823	135	1	85	109	28	25	60	79	31	5	7	437	2,905	5,577	2,674	...	2,674	92.	
North Paliya ..	Ditto	1,203	1,645	2,482	50	...	...	...	...	1,152	1,374	1,339	12	131	240	2,506	3,019	4,261	1,242	...	1,242	41	
	Total	9,101	32,312	52,403	62	96	2,769	2,861	3	11,833	17,680	21,188	19	1,977	5,853	23,007	62,701	82,905	30,133	589	29,544	55	
	GRAND TOTAL	21,268	1,67,507	2,75,272	64	261	20,320	22,716	11	30,553	1,10,551	1,34,879	22	1,977	5,853	54,039	2,98,878	4,98,720	1,41,655	1,813	1,40,842	47	

STATEMENT J.

Showing the progress in Fairing the Records during the year ending 30th September 1896.

Total number of villages under settlement.	Number of plots.		RECORDS COPIED AFTER FINAL PUBLICATION.				TERM PREPARED.		RAIYATS' COPIES OF KHATAN.		REMARKS.
			Villages of which records have been received from Assistant Settlement Officers for copying.		Records faired for Collector's record-room.						
			Villages.	Plots.	Villages.	Plots.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1,639	About 2,709,000	{ Previous to year under report During the year under report.	301	372,637	112	218,767	112	229,880	120	263,743	(a) These fair copies are in the continuous khatian form. They were intended for the record-room, but cannot now be so utilized. Under recent orders, fresh copies will have to be made on forms, the counter-part of the originals.
		Total ...	301	372,667	112	218,767	112	229,880	120	263,743	

C. ALLEN,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX IV.

No. 317, dated Daltonganj, the 12th October 1896.

From—DONALD SUNDER, Esq., Settlement Officer, Palamau,

To—The Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.

REFERRING to your Circular No. 53S. of 11th September 1896, I have the honour to forward the following annual report on the settlement operations in the Palamau Government estate for the year ending 30th September 1896.

2. The estate comprises 400 villages which are situated in groups of from 2 to 30 villages in 18 tappas of Palamau district. But although they lie in groups in many places, still they are scattered all over the district, as will be seen from the annexed index map. The estate was acquired by Government by purchase in the year 1812 A.D., owing to the non-payment of revenue by the Maharaja of Palamau, Churaman Rai, and since then has been a Government estate.

3. *Notification and orders sanctioning the operations.*—Government of Bengal Notification No. 2725L.R., dated 1st August 1893, runs thus:—

“Under section 3 of Act V (B.C.) of 1875, the Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to order that a survey shall be made of all lands comprised within the boundaries of the Government *khalsa* mauzas of the Palamau Government estate, in the district of Palamau, and that the boundaries of the estate, mauzas, tenures, and the fields included within such, be demarcated on the lands so to be surveyed.”

The settlement is being conducted under the provisions of Act VIII (B.C.) of 1879.

In Government of Bengal, Revenue Department, letter No. 3916 of 14th August 1895, further orders were issued regarding (1) the survey and demarcation of the external boundaries of the Palamau Government estate; and (2) the formation of blocks of protected forest in Palamau. These orders empowered me to make new village boundaries, taking the cultivated blocks and adding to them waste land up to double the area of cultivation, if such waste does not contain much valuable timber. The balance of the waste is to be formed into protected forest subject to the general understanding that, unless these blocks can be made of at least 320 acres, or half a square mile, it is not worth while to make them.

Area under survey and settlement in Palamau.—The area of the 400 villages which have been surveyed and for which a record-of-rights has been framed, is 181,173 acres or 283 square miles. The area actually measured by the Survey Party is 188,129 acres or 294 square miles; but this includes 11 square miles of jagir or revenue-free land which are not under settlement. The number of plots or fields measured in the area of the Government *khalsa* villages is 161,566. This includes 534 fields of old cultivation, covering 591 acres, which were measured by my staff during the year. This old cultivation was found by me in 36 villages while I was inspecting them for the purpose of ascertaining whether any blocks of protected forest could be made. It had been overlooked by the survey amins, but has now been assessed to revenue.

5. *Survey and khanapuri.*—Only one village, which had been overlooked during the previous season, was surveyed and khanapuried during the year under report. The area of this village, excluding jungle which has not been measured, is 254 acres. Besides this, 330 fields of cultivation in the jungle tracts of 45 villages, covering an area of 354 acres, were surveyed and khanapuried by the Survey Party during the year. This was old cultivation which had been overlooked by the survey amins during the previous season.

8. *Settlement staff of officers and distribution of work.*—I was in charge of the settlement throughout the year. My report as to the rates which should be adopted in this settlement having been submitted with my letter No. 338 of 29th August 1895, and there being no special work to keep me at head-quarters, I went into camp as soon as the rains had ceased for the purpose of carrying out the above mentioned orders of Government regarding making of new village boundaries and protected forests. I was on tour for this purpose for 90 days, during which I inspected 147 villages, and made eight blocks of protected forests, as mentioned below. I also tested the status, classification, and rents of 6,000 raiyats in 161 villages of the southern tappas, and corrected the records relating to these tenants whenever errors were found, either from raiyats having left their holdings and given place to others, or from any other cause. I was again on tour for 15 days for the purpose of disposing of some boundary disputes and other work. I returned to head-quarters on 15th February 1896 to meet the Divisional Commissioner, but became very poorly from an attack of influenza from which I suffered for about two weeks. On 3rd March 1896 I received a telegram from the Board of Revenue, directing me to visit Calcutta for the purpose of discussing the rates recommended by me. I was absent from Daltonganj for this purpose for 19 days. Altogether I was on tour for 125 days during the year.

9. Babu Rameshwar Prasad, Assistant Settlement Officer, was employed under me throughout the year. He was on tour for only two days for the purpose of attestation and other work in connection with village boundary marks. During my absence on tour Babu Rameshwar Prasad was in charge of my office at head-quarters, and was of much use to me in pushing on the work. During April 1896, when the rents on the new basis were explained to the raiyats, and again in August, and September 1896 when their *ferists* were issued to them, the help he gave me was of the greatest use in getting the work done quickly and without friction or trouble.

10. *Record-writing*.—The records of only one village were received from the Survey Office during the year. One hundred and forty-one “badar” slips were also received from that office. They were sent to me for correction of errors which had been made in the records previously supplied by the Survey Office owing to omissions or mistakes of the amins. These badar slips necessitated the frequent alteration of records from khasra to jamabandi, and caused considerable trouble and delay. Unfortunately they are still coming in from Mussoorie, although my records have been finally closed and the rents on the new basis have been announced to the raiyats and accepted by them.

11. *Attestation*.—The records of only one village covering 0.39 square mile, with two raiyats holding nine plots, were attested during the year. This work was done by Babu Rameshwar Prasad, Assistant Settlement Officer. The records of all other villages had been attested during the previous year. As shown in the statement in Appendix IV of this report, the status of 13,242 tenants has been recorded. Of these, 7,519 are in possession of valuable raiyati rights. The number of non-occupancy raiyats is 5,431. The Board of Revenue during the year asked for explanation as to the large number of occupancy and non-occupancy raiyats as compared with settled raiyats. I tested the classification during last cold season, and the figures now given are the revised ones. The raiyats of Palamau are always shifting from one village to another. Kherwars, Bhuias, Brijas, Oraons, Parhaiyas, and even Cheros are extremely superstitious. Sickness or failure of crops for two or three seasons, and often even for one season, domestic quarrels or frivolous disputes and misunderstandings with other raiyats, are thought to be sufficient grounds for relinquishing holdings and going off to tea districts in Assam and the Duars, or to other suitable lands in neighbouring villages in Palamau. This occurs in the case of settled raiyats as well as occupancy and non-occupancy raiyats. Tenants who were in possession of holdings in May 1895 were found by me in January 1896 to have moved on to fresh fields. People who were on their holdings in January 1896 were found in May to have left and given their lands to others. The raiyats of the estate are nomadic, especially in the southern tappas, and this accounts for the large number of occupancy and non-occupancy raiyats as against settled raiyats.

12. *Assessment of land revenue*.—In paragraph 4 of Government of Bengal, Revenue Department, letter No. 840L.R., dated 14th February 1894, it was ordered that the provisions of Act VIII (B.C.) of 1879, and instructions given in rules 21 to 30 of the rules under the Bengal Tenancy Act, should be followed for the assessment of the future revenue. The raiyats of Palamau cultivate land under three systems, namely, (1) the *pariadari* system; (2) the *uttakar* system; and (3) the *maswar* or *purankar* system. The *pariadari* system prevails chiefly in the southern tappas. Under it, speaking generally, a raiyat holding an entire *paria* has from 3 to 5 acres of *dhan* land, together with as much *bhita* or up-land as he may be able to cultivate. In the last settlement only rice land was measured and entered in the raiyats’ *ferists*, and only this land was assessed to revenue. All up-land was held rent-free.

Under the *uttakar* system rent is paid for every bigha of land whether it be *dhan* or *bhita*.

Under the *maswar* or *purankar* system raiyats pay as much grain as may be used for sowing in the lands under cultivation, *i.e.*, if five seers of grain be sown, the same quantity must be given when the crop is reaped in lieu of a money rent. In Revenue Department letter No. 77T.R., dated 29th April 1896, the Lieutenant-Governor approved of the settlement being made throughout the estate on the *uttakar* system of assessment of every bigha of land. The rates recommended by me, which are practically the same as those of the last settlement, were also approved.

As to the settlement of *palas* and *kusum* lac-bearing trees, my recommendations were that the rates marginally noted should be adopted.

* In northern tappas.
Palas at ... 2 annas per tree.
Kusum at ... 6 “ “ “

In southern tappas.
Palas at ... 1 anna per tree.
Kusum at ... 4 annas “ “

As to *mohua* trees, I had recommended that, after distributing these trees, two per raiyat in the northern tappas and four in the southern tappas, rent-free, the excess trees held by a raiyat should be assessed at 4 annas per tree in the northern tappas and at 2 annas in the southern tappas.

These recommendations were sanctioned by Government in Revenue Department letter No. 3292 of 17th August 1896. My assessments were completed and announced to the raiyats within the year. The result is shown in Appendix IV of this report. The attested revenue is Rs. 56,666. The revenue on the new basis is Rs. 74,433. The revenue of the estate under the last settlement, including commission allowed to thikadars, was Rs. 40,842. The increase is Rs. 33,591 or 82 per cent. Besides this, 19,527 trees *mohua* were brought under assessment. The rent payable for this is Rs. 3,444 annually. 90,762 *palas* and 8,234 *kusum* trees have also been assessed to

revenue. The amount payable for them is Rs. 10,440 annually. Thus the total increase of revenue obtained in this settlement is Rs. 47,475, as shown below :—

					Rs.
By land revenue	...	...	...	...	33,591
„ mohua trees	...	...	...	...	3,444
„ palas and kusum trees	...	...	...	...	10,440
Total					47,475

In the last settlement the *manjhas* and *mahtwana* lands found with the thikadar were settled with him at the village rates. These lands he held in virtue of his position as thikadar or Government rent collector. He was precluded from acquiring any right of occupancy in these lands. The thikadari system having been abolished, the *manjhas* lands have been assessed to revenue at the sanctioned rates, and have been settled by me with the persons in actual cultivating possession, and not with the thikadars who had held them.

13. *Publication of records.*—Section 9 of Act VIII (B.C.) of 1879 requires that a copy of the jamabandi or extracts therefrom should be published at the mal-cutchery of the village to which the jamabandi relates. The rates for this settlement having been sanctioned by the Board of Revenue in letter No. 235A. of 18th March 1896, the Board in the same letter authorised me to proceed with the settlement in anticipation of the sanction of Government. Accordingly, I completed my assessments of the future revenue and by the end of April 1896 had announced them to the raiyats. Each raiyat separately was told the amount of rent payable by him on the new basis, and the area of his lands was also explained to him at the same time. The rents were generally accepted. There were a few objections; but these were chiefly against the classification of soil as made by the survey amins. After this, when the extracts from the jamabandis were about to be published, as required by the law, the Divisional Commissioner, in his letter No. 156L.R., dated 1st May 1896, ordered that, as the rates for settlement of *palas* and *kusum* lac-bearing trees had not been sanctioned, the jamabandis should not be published until orders of Government were received. On June 1st, 1896, I again asked for orders as to whether the jamabandis may be published; but was again instructed to wait. On 11th August 1896 I received a copy of Government of Bengal, Revenue Department, telegram of 7th idem, sanctioning the rates for assessment of lac-bearing trees as recommended by me. This removed all trouble and cleared the way for proceeding with the settlement. I then at once commenced issuing *ferists* to the raiyats. *Ferists* were granted to the tenants by Mr. Forbes in last settlement, and are looked upon by them as an authority from Government to hold and cultivate their lands. It is a statement showing details of the lands in each holding, together with the revenue payable therefor during the term of the settlement. Without *ferists* the raiyats would have declined to pay the revenue on the new basis, the first kist of which will be due on October 28th, 1896. Hereunder is a copy of the form in which *ferists* have been issued to each raiyat under my signature.

Considerable
modifications, sug-
gested by the
Commissioner,
were made in Mr.
Sunder's proposals.
P. C. L.
17-11-96.

Statement showing the settlement of holding No. in mauza , tappa , district
Palamau, with effect from 1st April 1896 in the name of for 15 years.

Number of plots.	DETAIL OF LANDS COMPRISED WITHIN THE HOLDING.			DETAILS OF TREES ATTACHED TO THE HOLDING.						Total rental payable or the holding.	REMARKS.
	Description of lands.	Area.	Rent settled.	Mohua trees.		Number of lac-bearing trees settled for one year only.					
				Number.	Rent.	Palas.	Kusum.	Khair.	Rent.		
1		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Dhankhet, 1st ...		Rs. A. P.						Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
	Ditto, 2nd ...										
	Ditto, 3rd ...										
	Bhita, 1st ...										
	Do., 2nd ...										
	Do., 3rd ...										
	Total ...										
	Homesteads ...										
	Bari ...										
	GRAND TOTAL ...										

It will be seen that the *ferists* issued to the raiyats not only contains the contents of each khatian, but of the jamabandi also. Before the issue of any *ferists*, I personally explained to each raiyat all its contents, i.e., all particulars relating to his holdings. The area of his

lands was first explained in bighas, cottahs, and dhurs, and then in acres and decimals. The number of *palas* and *kusum* lac-bearing trees within his holding, and the rates at which these trees, as also excess *mahua* trees, have been assessed, were also explained to the tenants. Those of them who hold lac-bearing trees have been informed by me personally that the settlement for these trees is for one year only, and that the trees may be resettled with them or not next year, as Government may determine. After everything was fully explained, and if there was no objection, the tenant signed his name or affixed his thumb print in the jamabandi against his name in token of his acceptance of the settlement, and after this the *ferist* was made over to him. Between 11th August, when I commenced the issue of *ferists*, up to end of September 1896, 11,206 *ferists* had been issued, and on the date of submission of this report, out of 12,950 *ferists* which had to be issued, only 350 remain to be issued.

The form of jamabandi which has been used for this settlement was sanctioned in letter No. 1152S., dated 15th April 1895, of the Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal, as is shown below:—

Jamabandi of mauza , tappa , Palamau district.

Number of tenancy.	Name, parentage, and residence of tenant.	Khasra number of plots.	LAND AS ASCERTAINED IN THE PRESENT SURVEY.		Total area of tenancy.	Former rent.	Rent resultant from application of rates.	New rent settled.	Clause or clauses of section 6 of Act VIII (B. C.) of 1879 under which rent has been enhanced.	REMARKS.
			Description of land.	Area of each plot or of a group of plots of the same description.						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
				Acres. Dec.	Acres. Dec.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		

Extracts from the jamabandi were prepared within the year for all the villages, and were ready for publication in April 1896; but at the time of issuing *ferists* in August and September it was found that many raiyats, especially Oraons and other aboriginal tribes, as is usual with these people, had left their holdings and had gone off to tea districts and other places. Some of them also had died. Their lands had, however, been taken up by other tenants whose names had to be entered in all the records. This caused much correction work and consequent delay, and the extracts from the jamabandi could not be published within the year; but since then the jamabandis of all the 400 villages under settlement have been published in the form shown below and in the manner required in section 9 of Act VIII (B.C.) of 1879. The publication has been made at the *bhandars* of the thikadars, and where there are no *bhandars* at places selected with reference to the raiyats' abodes, i.e., in *tlas* of villages where most of them are to be found, as ordered by the Divisional Commissioner.

Extract from jamabandi of mauza , tappa , Palamau district, published under the provisions of section 9, Act VIII (B.C.) of 1879, for the information of all raiyats of the mauza, with the intimation that the original jamabandi is open for inspection in the Office of the Settlement Officer, Palamau, at Daltonganj, where it can be seen between the hours of 11 A.M. and 5 P.M. daily, except Sundays.

Serial number.	Name, parentage, caste and residence of tenants.	Khasra number of plots.	LAND AS ASCERTAINED IN THE PRESENT SURVEY.								Total area of tenancy.	Former rent.	New rent settled.	Clause or clauses of section 9 of Act VIII (B.C.) of 1879, under which rent has been enhanced.	DESCRIPTION OF RENT-PAYING TREES WITHIN HOLDING.			Rent payable for trees.	Total rent payable.	REMARKS.												
			Rent-paying area.				Non-rent-paying area.								Mahua.	Palas.	Kasum.															
			Dhankhet.	Bhita.	Garden.	Total.	Homestead.		Other kinds if any.																							
							House.	Bari.																								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20													
			A.	D.	A.	D.	A.	D.	A.	D.	A.	D.	A.	D.				Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.				Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.

14. *Appeals.*—There were none during the year.

15. *Collection of new assessment.*—The collection of the revenue on the new basis has already been introduced in the villages to which this settlement relates.

The kists are—

			Rs.
Four annas payable on 28th October	...	...	18,608
Eight " " on 28th January	...	...	37,217
Four " " on 28th March	...	...	18,608
Total	...	...	74,433

17. *Boundary disputes.*—There were only four disputes during the year, and all disclosed encroachments by jagirdars on Government lands. In the settlement of these disputes the revenue survey of 1864-65 was adhered to.

18. *Cost with estimates.*—The cost of the settlement operations during the year under review was Rs. 15,980. The cost for the half-year from April to September 1896 was Rs. 6,173. The amount of the estimate for which sanction has been asked is Rs. 14,244. Details are given in Appendix III of this report.

19. *Statements.*—The usual statements, as also the one called for in your circular No. 538. of 11th September 1896, are forwarded herewith.

Protected forests.—The orders regarding making of these forests in Palamau are contained in Government of Bengal, Revenue Department, letter No. 3916 of 14th August 1895. Between 17th November 1895 and 15th February 1896, I inspected 147 villages of the southern tappas and made eight blocks of protected forest, but of these, under the orders of the Divisional Commissioner, one is to be excluded from protection because it is within less than two miles of reserved forest, and the raiyats had asked that their rights therein may not be interfered with. The villages in the northern tappas, about 150 in all, remain to be inspected in view of ascertaining whether any more protected forest can be made. I have arranged to do this work during the months of November and December next.

21. *General remarks.*—The settlement operations proceeded throughout the year without any kind of obstruction from the tenants. After the rents on the new basis had been explained to them in April 1896, they were eager to obtain their ferists. Had the issue of these and the publication of the jamabandis been allowed, the settlement might easily have been closed by the end of September 1896, as I had wished. For want of orders, however, nothing could be done for nearly four months, and thus much valuable time was lost. Since August 11th, 1896, however, when the way became clear, I have done everything possible to expedite the operations. The work now remaining to be done is mentioned below:—

(a) Arrangement of the settlement records, binding them up and making them over to the record-room of the Deputy Commissioner's office.

(b) Preparation of statistical statements for final report.

(c) Writing of my final report.

The work shown against (a) and (b) will probably not be finished before the end of January 1897. The jamabandis will have to remain open for inspection at my office for any tenants who may wish to see them up to end of February 1897, as required under the provisions of section 9, Act VIII (B.C.) of 1879. My final report on this settlement will not be ready for submission to you until about the end of March 1897.

22. In conclusion, I beg to say that Babu Rameshwar Prasad, Assistant Settlement Officer, worked well during the year and gave me satisfaction.

APPENDIX I.

Annual Return of boundary disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act for the year ending 30th September 1896.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NUMBER INSTITUTED—			NUMBER DISPOSED OF—			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
	Up to end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous month.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of Revenue Officer has been —			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Mr. D. Sunder, Settlement Officer.	173	3	176	172	4	176	...	...	...	...	...	...	

APPENDIX II.

Annual Return of attestation work, including final publication of Records for the year ending 30th September 1896.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	Number of villages for which records have been received from the Survey Department.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.				NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT PUBLISHED.		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED.		REMARKS.
					Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Babu Rameshwar Prasad, Assistant Settlement Officer.	Up to end of the previous year.	399	282'66	399	399	282'66	13,240	1,61,557	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Barwadih ...	1	'39	1	...	...	...	...	1	'39	2	9	...	...	...	...	
	Total ...	400	283'05	400	399	282'66	13,240	1,61,557	1	'39	2	9	...	...	...	...	

APPENDIX III.

Annual financial statement for the year ending 30th September 1896.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Expenditure during the survey year, 1894-95.	Expenditure for the survey year, 1895-96.	Expenditure from April 1896 to September 1896.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
1. Pay and special allowance of Settlement Officer.	Rs. 4,947	Rs. 5,989	Rs. 2,989	
Assistant Settlement Officer ...	1,200	1,200	500	
2. Fixed establishment ...	...	1,187	501	
3. Variable ditto ...	...	5,920	1,635	
4. Travelling allowance—				
Of officers ...	...	732	351	
Of establishment ...	...	959	147	
5. Contingencies ...	...	3,330	952	
Total ...	15,842	15,980	6,173	

APPENDIX IV.

Statement showing the status and rent of tenants as recorded in the Khatians from the commencement of the operations.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF LANDS.					Rent settled.	Average rate per acre.	REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate area held by each class.	Average area of lands per holding.	Attested rent.	Average rent per acre.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. Settled raiyats ...	5,005	Acres. 39,365	Acres. 7'85	Rs. 34,318	Rs. A. P. 0 13 11	Rs. 46,809	Rs. A. P. 1 3 0	
2. Occupancy raiyats ...	2,514	8,734	3'39	8,897	1 0 3	12,071	1 6 1	
3. Non-occupancy raiyats ...	5,431	16,930	3'11	13,451	0 12 8	15,553	0 14 8	
4. Rent-free holders ...	292	530	...	...	...	...	...	
Total ...	13,242	65,559	...	56,666	...	74,433	...	

APPENDIX V.

No. 104, dated Siliguri, the 8th October 1896.

From—BABU SASI BHUSAN DATTA, Settlement Officer, Darjeeling Terai,
To—The Deputy Commissioner, Darjeeling, through the Subdivisional Officer,
Kurseong.

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report relating to Darjeeling Terai settlement for the year ending 30th September 1896.

2. The lower portion of the Darjeeling district, locally known as Darjeeling Terai, has an area of 271·65 square miles according to the revenue survey of 1863-64, out of which 41·28 square miles are reserved forests. This low tract is bounded on the north by the Himalayas, east by the Jalpaiguri district, south by the Jalpaiguri and Purnea districts, and west by the Nepal State.

3. The area to which the present survey and settlement operations are confined is 230·37 square miles. It comprises two parganas, Hatighisa and Patherghatta. They are divided into 19 mauzas containing 877 jotes, of which 84 are held under the 30 years' lease, and 793 under leases for 10 years. These jotes, under the authority of the Board of Revenue, have been registered as estates.

4. The last settlement of the jotes held under 10 years' lease was made in 1879, and was afterwards extended to 16 years, so that the resettlement of the jotes under 30 years' lease, the term of which has just expired, would conveniently be undertaken together at the same time. The Government Notification No. 5150L.R., dated 20th November 1894, directing the commencement of the survey operations under Act V of 1875, was issued shortly after the survey party took the field in October 1894. After the last recess the survey party made over to this office complete records of 209 square miles, with 39 boundary sheets without interior detail, for the remaining 21 square miles of the excess area held under 30 years' lease.

5. During the year under report, Munshi Panchkowri Biswas, Assistant Settlement Officer, was entrusted with the completion of the cadastral survey of the said 21 square miles, and finished the interior detailed survey thereof with the aid of eightamins and one Inspector under Government order No. 360, dated 24th January 1896. Theamins were paid at contract rates, and the Inspector and the chainman on salary. Theamins' work was regularly tested by the Inspector and the Assistant Settlement Officer by check lines of 836 chains. The records prepared by theamins were also checked by them and myself on the spot. Including 18 new jotes created by resumption of patrol police land and division of jotes, and 18 blocks of khas lands, such as bazar and encamping ground, there were prepared 946 records to be dealt with in the present settlement. Of these, 893 were made over by the survey party and 53 were prepared by the Assistant Settlement Officer.

6. While the survey party was in the field last year, Munshi Panchkowri Biswas was employed as Assistant Superintendent of Survey to supervise khamapuri and to settle boundary disputes. He joined the survey party on the 5th December 1894, and acted in that capacity till 31st July 1895, when he reverted to his permanent post in the Jalpaiguri tea land survey.

7. During the year under report, Babu Nibaran Chandra Ghatak was at first appointed as Settlement Officer, and he joined his duties on 19th December 1895. He had been on attestation duty all along till 25th January 1896, when he got a severe hurt on his left arm by a fall from his horse, which compelled him to take long leave. I was then appointed in his place, and took charge on 8th February last. Munshi Panchkowri Biswas, who reverted to his permanent post for the recess, joined this settlement again as an Assistant Settlement Officer on 28th October 1895, and his services were retained here for completion of survey papers till 13th July last, when he again reverted to his former post as Native Surveyor in Jalpaiguri. Babu Nibaran Chandra Ghatak was on tour 32 days, Munshi Panchkowri Biswas 132 days, and myself 85 days for attestation, survey and settlement of boundary disputes.

8. The following staff was allowed to each officer while employed in field duties:—

Settlement Officer.	Assistant Settlement Officer.
1 Clerk.	1 Peshkar.
1 Peshkar.	9 Attestation muharrirs.
11 Attestation muharrirs.	9 Amins.
8 Peons.	1 Inspector.
1 Record-keeper.	5 Peons.
1 Amin.	13 Chainmen.
2 Tabulators.	

During recess the staff was reduced to following scale:—

1 Clerk.	11 Muharrirs.
1 Peshkar.	1 Draftsman.
1 Record-keeper.	1 Duftry.
4 Peons.	

During the field season the record-keeper was in charge of records at headquarters at Siliguri.

9. *Boundary disputes.*—From the commencement of the operations till 30th September last, there have been 170 disputes about the jote boundaries. In the last year 84 disputes were made over by the survey party, out of which 79 were disposed of before 30th September 1895. Including the pending 5 disputes, there have been 91 disputes in the file, out of which 89 were disposed of during the year under report. The remaining 2, pending during the rainy season, will shortly be settled. These disputes in most cases relate to waste lands covered with jungle not easily traceable without consulting the jote maps; they were disposed of according to the last settlement map with the consent of the parties. Only a few cases were contested, which were settled according to possession. Two appeals were preferred against the findings of the Assistant Settlement Officer—one of which was reversed, and the other upheld.

10. *Attestation*—Did not commence till the end of December last, when my predecessor joined this office. The work was carried on by dividing the mauzas into two separate circles, as shown in the Statement A. Though at the first stage of operation both my predecessor and the Assistant Settlement Officer worked together in a few villages, the attestation of the entire tract with the exception of three jotes, viz., Dum-Duma, Manjhee and Mohorgong tea gardens, was finished during the year under report, that is, the attestation of 943 records, with 9,599 tenants, 106,541 plots was completed. The Manager of the Dum-Duma Tea Estate would not sign the paper till the appeal relating to the boundary dispute between the Atal and Dum-Duma tea gardens is decided by the Commissioner. The managers of the other two gardens declined to sign the papers, as the area of their gardens, by present survey, was found short by 70 and 120 acres respectively. This diminution of area is probably due to the encroachment of forest upon tea-gardens.

11. *Mutation of names.*—Since the last settlement, numerous changes have occurred affecting the entries in the Tauzi Register, owing to constant transfer of jotes by inheritance, gift and sale, and they have been properly attended to. Four hundred and ninety-one applications for mutation of names were received and disposed of during the year under report, and reports of unrecorded mutations were duly made to the Deputy Commissioner to compel registration under Act VII of 1876. These changes in the names of jotedars have wasted much time by necessitating the correction of all connected papers.

12. *Record of rights and rents.*—In the present survey the area under settlement has been found to be in the occupancy of jotedars, thikadars, dar-thikadars, dar-a-dar-thikadars and adhiars. Here the jotedars who hold land direct from Government have hitherto been treated as raiyats, with a right of occupancy. They cultivate their lands either by their own or hired labour, or on the system of *adhiari* or halves, but the large number of jotedars have raiyats under them holding lands on money rents, who are called thikadars. These thikadars have got tenants under them paying rent in money, who are called dar-thikadars, and their sub-tenants are known by dar-a-dar-thikadars. The total number of tenants of all degrees for whom separate khatians have been prepared and whose status and rents have been recorded is 9,599, of whom 943 are jotedars, 4,783 thikadars, 1,516 are dar-thikadars, 230 are dar-a-dar-thikadars, and 2,127 adhiars under jotedars and thikadars. The average revenue and rent payable by jotedars and thikadars on cultivated area has been found to be Re. 1-5-5 and Rs. 3-6 per acre respectively. No dispute relating to records of rents and

status of tenants came to my notice during attestation, except in two cases, where the thikadar's right to a certain area was contested by the jotedar. As the thikadars were deprived of possession thereof for upwards of 12 years, I rejected the thikadars' claim, and on appeal my orders were confirmed. According to local custom, the right of the thikadars is not transferable, nor can they cut the trees, without the permission of their landlords (jotedars).

13. *Service tenures.*—According to the present survey, 392·33 acres of land were found in the occupancy of patrol police in 16 mauzas. As their services were dispensed with, the area so held by them free of revenue were resumed under Government Order No. 284T.R., dated 7th June 1895, and was added to the original jotes where the patrol police let out the lands to the other tenants. In 8 cases the patrol police was found to occupy and cultivate lands themselves, and 8 new jotes were prepared for settlement with them.

14. *Division of jote.*—Under instructions from the Commissioner of the Division, jotedars were invited to apply for separate leases for their shares, and accordingly 40 applications were filed in this connection. In 10 cases the applicants' possession was found divided and compact, and 10 separate records in respect of their shares were prepared. The other 30 were disallowed owing to lands being held ijmalī with other co-sharers.

15. *Demarcation of boundary.*—During attestation and recess 56 petitions were received to relay the boundaries of jotes which could not be traced on the spot for jungle. Most of them were disposed of at the cost of applicants, for which one amin with a chainman has been entertained. After the demarcation the boundaries were preserved with wooden posts to avoid future litigation. The amount deposited to meet the pay of amins and chainmen is Rs. 256, out of which Rs. 175 was expended during the year. The balance Rs. 81 is in hand for pending cases.

16. After completion of attestation my office has been removed to Siliguri to get the records in a state of completion for the rate report and jama-bandi. The rate report with full statistics and evidence in support of enhancement was submitted to the higher authorities on the 26th July; but Government sanction has not yet been received.

17. *Correction of records.*—To expedite completion of attestation during the year under report, the correction of khasra and milan khasra for a considerable area was not attended to on the spot. As the alterations of entries in the khatians are very great, owing to mutation petitions, the work is still in progress. The completion of crop statistics and the preparation of the terij were finished. The forms for jamabandi were applied for. It will be commenced as soon as the forms are supplied by the Director of Land Records.

18. *Assessment and publication.*—The assessment of the tract under settlement is to be conducted under the provisions of Act VIII (B.C.) of 1879, and it cannot be undertaken until the Government has sanctioned the rates. After calculation of jama at the sanctioned rates, copies of the jamabandi will have to be published for four months under section 10 of the said Act.

19. *Cost.*—The operation has extended over three financial years 1894-95, 1895-96 and 1896-97. The amounts sanctioned and spent in each year are shown below:—

YEAR,			Sanctioned amount.	Amount actually spent up to 30th September of each year.		
			Rs.	Rs.	A.	P.
1894-95	...	...	5,000	709	13	6
1895-96	...	...	17,576	5,682	3	0
1896-97	...	...	9,000	7,313	7	1
Total			31,576	13,705	7	7

Out of Rs. 13,705 already expended, Rs. 10,838 have been spent during the year under report, and Rs. 2,867 during the year ending 30th September 1895. Of this amount, Rs. 1,176 were paid as cost of finishing the interior detail of the 21 square miles held under the 30 years' lease, and the remaining Rs. 12,529 may be taken for settlement, which shows the cost of settlement up to date to have been 1 anna 4 pies per acre, or Rs. 55 per square mile.

20. In conclusion, I have much pleasure to say that all my subordinates have rendered me satisfaction by the due discharge of their duties.

A.

Progress return of attestation work of Darjeeling Terai Settlement for the year ending 30th September 1896.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Number of jotes in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF JOTES.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PRECEDING YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.				REMARKS.
				For which records have been received from the Survey Department.	For which records have been prepared in this office.	Total.	Number of jotes.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of jotes.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of jotes inspected during the year under report.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Babu Nibaran Chandra Ghatak and Babu Sasi Brinsan Datta, Settlement Officers.	Buraganj	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	129 Jotes with 14,353 plots were attested by Babu Nibaran Chandra Ghatak.
	Raniganj	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Barabari	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Panisail	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Khokogram	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Katighusa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Naxalbari	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Baraghoria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Nizamata	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Patilghatta	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Hedong	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Dumrakuri	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Ataraki	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Bisarbati	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Barochoria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Patherghatta	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Gossainpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Champesori	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Munshi Panchotkuri Biswas, Assistant Settlement Officer.	Kamathunga Jalias	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Thakurganj	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Lingthara	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Hetmuri	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Dumriguri	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Haighisa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Naxalbari	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Nizamata	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Total	946	230.37	885	51	946	.....	.....	.....	.....	943	224.35	9,599	105,641	648	

XXXX

B.

Progress Statement showing the status and rent of tenants as recorded in the khatians from the commencement of the settlement to the close of the year ending 30th September 1896.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LANDS.					REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class.	Average area of cultivated lands per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per cultivated acre.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Jotedars ...	943	68,499-09	72-63	Rs. 91,714 3 0	Rs. 1 5 5	
Thikadars and other tenants, excluding adhiars.	6,529	35,564-27	5-46	1,20,190 5 6	3 6 0	
Adhiars ...	2,127	6,895-20	.....	.....	.....	
	9,599	110,958-56				

C.

Progress return of boundary disputes of Darjeeling Terai settlement dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act for the year ending 30th September 1896.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Number instituted up to the end of the previous year.	Number instituted during the year.	Total.	Number disposed of to the end of the previous year.	Number disposed of during the year.	Total.	Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
								Instituted.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Babu Nibaran Chandra Ghatak and Babu Sasi Bhusan Datta, Settlement Officers.		38	38		36	36	2	...	...				Four cases were disposed of by Babu Nibaran Chandra Ghatak.
Munshi Panchkowi Biswas, Assistant Settlement Officer.	84	48	132	79	53	132	.....	2	2	1	.....	1	
Total ...	84	86	170	79	89	168	2	2	2	1	.....	1	

E.

Statement showing the progress of work of Darjeeling Terai Settlement for the year ending 30th September 1896.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK.	Amount of work to be done.	Done up to end of the previous year.	Done during the year under report.	Remaining to be done.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Preparation of final terij	877	.....	877	.....	
Checking the correction of records	877	.....	306	571	
Correction of khasra and milan-khasra according to changes made during attestation.	437	.....	311	126	
Division of jotes	40	.....	40	.....	
Correction of 4" maps	15	.....	15	.....	
Numbering the jotes in 4" sheet map	15	.....	15	.....	
Numbering and correcting the names of adjoining jotes in 16" map.	877	.....	877	.....	
Making total of crop statements	703	.....	703	.....	
Writing up the jote notes	877	.....	113	764	

SILIGURI,
The 8th October 1896.

SASI BHUSAN DUTT,
Settlement Officer.

No. 1315Rct., dated Darjeeling, the 9th November 1896.*

From—P. NOLAN, Esq., Commissioner of the Rajshahi Division,

To—The Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.

I HAVE the honour to forward in original the Settlement Officer's report on the settlement of the Darjeeling Terai for the year ending with the 30th of September 1896, together with a copy of the Deputy Commissioner's remarks thereon.

2. My views as to the main facts of this settlement have recently been expressed in my Rate Report No. 1090Rct., dated the 29th September 1896, and on the present occasion I think it only necessary to say that I concur in the remarks recorded by the Deputy Commissioner.

No. 1049G., dated Darjeeling, the 31st October 1896.

Memo. by—R. T. GREEN, Esq., Deputy Commissioner, Darjeeling.

FORWARDED.

2. Babu Sashi Bhusan Dutta has worked well during his term of office, and the settlement operations are safe in his hands.

The accident to Babu Nibaran Chandra Ghuttak was most unfortunate. He took a proper interest in the operations, and was working well. Munshi Panchkewri Biswas appeared to be unfit for independent work. He can work satisfactorily under proper supervision.

3. Good progress has been made in the settlement of boundary disputes and attestation work. The dispute between the estates of Atal and Dum-Dum has developed into a regular trial in the Revenue Court of the Deputy Commissioner.

4. Little difficulty has arisen as regards mutation of names and the decision of record of rights.

5. The disposal of the Patrol Police force lands has been carried out according to the orders of Government. The addition of new jotes seems to me unfortunate. I would prefer to have seen these lands amalgamated in all cases with the parent jotes.

6. Expenditure has been kept within the sanctioned bounds. It is hoped that the operations will be completed at an early date.

APPENDIX VI.

No. 211, dated Midnapore Settlement Office, the 6th October 1896.

From—BABU GIRISH CHANDRA DUTT, Settlement Officer, Midnapore,
To—The Collector of Midnapore.

I HAVE the honour to submit, herewith, my Annual Report on the Settlement operations of the temporarily-settled estates in Pargana Pataspur of district Midnapore, for the year commencing on 1st October 1895, and ending on 30th September 1896.

2. The survey and settlement of the 18 temporarily settled estates in pargana Pataspur were sanctioned in Government Notification, No. 3734L.R., dated 25th October 1892. The settlement is being made under the Bengal Tenancy Act, and the area under settlement is about 54 square miles, comprising 96 villages, surveyed in 81,000 plots, included in 14,000 tenancies.

3. *The original estimate and progress of operations.*—Although it was originally estimated that the operations would be concluded in about a year and-a-half, they have, owing to various unforeseen circumstances, taken already over three years and-a-half, and still the completion of the work is not quite within view. The most potent cause of this slow progress is the special unhealthiness of the tract, from which all the Survey and Settlement Officers have had to suffer, and the extreme difficulty experienced in inducing the people to take any interest in the operations. The survey was begun in January 1893, and was concluded, as also the *khanapuri* of a part of the area, by July of that year. The initial record-writing was finished in March 1894. The attestation of 39 villages was also done during 1893-94, but as this work was incomplete in many respects, it had to be done over again in the following year. Practically therefore the attestation of the entire area was done in field season 1894-95, and the assessment of about 11,000 raiyati holdings has been completed during the last field season. The first Settlement Officer, Babu Satish Chandra Basu, held charge of this settlement and several other settlements of private estates, from November 1892 to March 1894, when his health broke down and he took leave. The next Settlement Officer, Babu Lalit Chandra Das Gupta, took over charge on 1st June 1894, but he also fell ill and had to go on leave from the middle of August following. Then came Babu Promotho Nath Dutt, who assumed charge on 22nd December 1894, but he too fell ill and went on leave in February last. I took over charge of the operations towards the end of February 1896.

4. *Programme for the past survey year.*—The programme for the survey year under report was submitted in June 1895, by the late Settlement Officer, Babu Promotho Nath Dutt, and was as follows:—

October 1895.—Completion of Jamabandis, proceedings and schedules for all the 96 villages, and issue of the necessary notices.

November 1895.—Completion of settlement of rent of 48 villages with 7,000 tenants.

December 1895.—Completion of settlement of rent of 48 villages with 7,000 tenants, and draft publication of the records of 32 villages.

January 1896.—Draft publication of 64 villages.

February 1896.—Final publication of 32 villages.

March 1896.—Final publication of 64 villages.

5. *Staff.*—The following Table shows the officers employed during the year, period for which each was employed, and the number of days spent by each officer on tour.

NAME OF OFFICER.	Designation.	Period for which employed.	Number of days spent on tour.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
Babu Promotho Nath Dutt, 19th October 1895 to 15th February 1896.	Deputy Collector.	120	93	Besides he was on tour for 11 days in connection with the settlement of the Keshrumbha estates.
Babu Girish Chandra Dutt, from 22nd February 1896 to 30th September 1896.	Offg. do.	222	139	From 14th July 1896 has been employed at head-quarters in disposing of case-work and in supervising the correction of records.

6. *Work done during the year.*—It will be noted that the programme given above is a very ambitious one and could not, I believe, be achieved by a single officer, even under the most favourable circumstances. Settling fair rents under the Bengal Tenancy Act for 7,000 tenants in a month, where each tenant who appears has to face an enhancement averaging a fourth of his existing rent, would be too much to expect under the most favourable

conditions, and more especially when one has to deal with such a litigious people as those of the Contai subdivision generally are. In fact, the highest monthly outturn of Babu Promotho Nath Dutt fell far short of even a third of the above estimate. The programme would also seem to presume that there would be few or no objections under sections 105 and 106, for the final publication was contemplated to come on just a month after the draft publication. But, as a matter of fact, although I disposed of some 900 objections in the course of my assessment work from March to June last, still no less than 1,748 petitions under section 105 were filed to the end of September, and as the period of publication of many villages has yet to run for over three weeks, many more are expected. Although the programme could not, I think, be carried out fully under even the fairest conditions, still the outturn for the past year would have been better than it is if Babu Promotho Nath Dutt had not been hampered, first by the delay in receiving orders on his proposals for assessment, and secondly, by ill-health. The following tabular statement shows the amount of work done by each officer during the year under report :—

NAME OF OFFICERS.	Number of villages assessed.	Number of tenants whose fair rents have been settled.	Total existing rental of tenants mentioned in column 3.	New rental settled for tenants in column 3.	Percentage of increase on existing rent in column 4.	Number of objections disposed of in the course of the fair rent work.	Number of villages whose <i>Bhowria milan</i> has been made.	Number of plots whose <i>Bhowria milan</i> has been made.	Number of villages whose records have been published in draft.	CASES UNDER SECTION 105.		CASES UNDER SECTION 106.		REMARKS.
										Instituted.	Disposed of.	Instituted.	Disposed of.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Babu Promotho Nath Dutt ...	41	3,960	121,023	26,667	26.36	117	...	...	...	1,748	1,164*	...	...	* Orders carried out in 630 cases.
„ Girish Chandra Dutt ...	55	6,164	27,294	30,714	16.53	985	20	25,613	95	...	...	5	3	

Besides the above, I have had to do a great deal of correction work in the attested records which was overlooked at the time of attestation.

7. *Settlement of fair rents.*—Fair rents have been settled under section 104 (2) for all the *māl* raiyats in the 96 villages. The number of tenants for whom fair rents have been settled is 10,124. In 19 villages, situate within the water-logged area, inside the Argoal circuit embankment, a remission of 3 to 4 annas per rupee on the existing rents has been given, while no additional rent, even at the reduced rate, has been taken for excess areas of holdings in these villages. The number of raiyats thus benefited is 1,411. Of these 515 have received a reduction of 4 annas per rupee, and 896 a reduction of 3 annas per rupee. In the remaining 77 villages fair rents have been settled for 8,713 raiyats. The recorded existing rental of these raiyats is Rs. 42,054, and the fair rent settled for them amounts to Rs. 52,044.

The subjoined statement shows the different heads under which enhancements of rent have been obtained :—

NUMBER OF VILLAGES.	Number of raiyats whose rents have been settled (column 11, Statement IV).	Former rents (column 13, Statement IV).	Increase due to excess area under sections 104 and 52.	Percentage of increase in column 4, on former rent.	Increase due to enhancement under other sections.	Percentage of increase in column 6 on former rent.	Total increase.	Percentage.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
77	8,713	42,054	7,039	16.73	2,951	7.01	9,990	23.75	

It will be seen that the largest increase has been obtained from additional rents being fixed for excess areas of holdings. This is due to two reasons, first the copies of rent-rolls supplied by the zamindars, from which existing rents have been recorded in the *khatians*, do not include rents for new lands which the raiyats have taken up since the settlement of 1871, and so, much land which really forms part of holdings, as already assessed by the proprietor, has now been assessed anew under the head of “excess areas.” Secondly, much unsettled land of the estates has now been settled with the raiyats by the settlement officer. The raiyats are generally satisfied with the assessment made, and where cases of high assessment are brought to notice under section 105, they are carefully considered by me. There has not been a single appeal against our decisions under section 104.

8. *Draft publication.*—Raiyati-khatians of all the 96 villages, except Kharairbar, which contains an area of a bigha and-a-half only, and in relation to which resumption proceedings are pending, were published in draft during the year under report. The khatians of *baziasti* tenures could not be published in draft; as the assessment of their excess areas has not yet been made. There was much confusion in recording the existing rents of *baziasti* tenures at the time of attestation, and until the existing rents are correctly recorded, their assessment cannot be undertaken.

With a view to make up for the want of thoroughness in the attestation work, and in order to make the draft publication a reality, I ordered the publication kanungos to get together all the resident raiyats of every village and to obtain their signatures in the publication reports, after clearly explaining each raiyat's *khatian*. I have insisted upon the signatures of at least 80 per cent. of resident raiyats being taken in every village, and in this way the publication of the draft raiyati records has been completed for the whole area.

9. *Objections under section 105.*—I have been literally flooded with these objections. Up to the 30th September, the period for filing objections had expired only in 67 villages, and the number of objections filed up to that date was 1,748, about 26 per village, and about 40 per square mile attested. Out of these 1,748 objections filed up to 30th September, 1,164 were disposed of up to that date. I have always endeavoured to induce people to settle their differences amicably, so that the operations may not be prolonged by unnecessary litigation under section 106, and that the poor people may be saved the expense and trouble which it inevitably entails. In this I have, I hope, succeeded in a great measure. Out of the 1,164 objections disposed of, only 5 cases under section 106 have been instituted.

With a view to making the records as accurate and free from error as possible, I have up to now refused no petition under section 105, because the time for filing such objections had already expired.

10. *Disputes under section 106.*—Five complaints were filed under section 106, of which three were disposed of within the year and two are pending. There have not been more than two adjournments in any of them. In connection with this subject, I would most respectfully invite the attention of the authorities to the effect of section 19(ix) of the Court Fees Act of 1870 and of Rule 1, Chapter 3, Part I of the Survey and Settlement Manual. Section 19(ix) of the Court Fees Act provides that nothing in that Act shall render chargeable with any fee, any "application or petition to a Collector or other officer making a settlement of land-revenue or to a Board of Revenue or a Commissioner of Revenue, relating to the matters connected with the assessment of land or the ascertainment of rights thereto or interests therein, if presented previous to the final confirmation of such settlement." Now it is contended by the public that, under this section, no court-fees are leviable either on applications under section 104 or on complaints under section 106, filed by parties before officers making a settlement of land-revenue. Now if this contention be correct, it would mean in effect, where the people are obstructive or bent on litigation, neither of which is a rare contingency, that there will be objections and disputes preferred on plain paper and decided summarily once at the time of attestation, again, with greater formality, under section 105, but still on plain paper, and then again, with all the formalities prescribed for Civil Courts deciding title-suits, under section 106, but yet preferred on a plain paper, and this without any limit of time, until the settlement is finally confirmed. It means that, with a few pieces of paper in their pockets, the people may defy an officer making a settlement of land-revenue to bring his proceedings to an end. They have simply to put in a number of objections, however frivolous, just the day before that

This is overstating the case. It is possible to publish finally all entries not affected by the dispute.

P. C. L.—13-11-96.

fixed for the final publication of the records, and the whole programme of the Settlement Officer is at once upset and the proceedings drag on again for a considerable length of time. And if they choose to take the cases in appeal to the Special Judge and again to the High Court, the officer may, so to say, be almost checkmated. Surely there should be some check on this endless litigation in the shape of cost of Court-fees. At any rate there should be something to maintain the dignity of the officer sitting as a Civil Court. As it is, the Court would now seem to be entirely at the mercy of the litigants.

It will be noticed, however, that section 19 of Act VII of 1870 speaks of revenue officers only, and does not mention settlement officers exercising the powers of a Civil Court, and so, perhaps, that section does not apply to cases under sections 104 and 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act. Of course the framers of the Act of 1870 could not foresee the effect of the provisions of that Act on the innovations in the settlement law made by Act VIII of 1885, and so it may be contended that section 19 of the Court-fees Act does not govern Civil Suits tried by revenue officers duly vested with the powers of a Civil Court. In this view I have so far insisted upon complaints under section 106 bearing *ad valorem* Court-fees, and I mean to adhere to this practice until I am overruled by a superior authority. I understand, however, that in Backergunge and elsewhere the practice is not to charge such *ad valorem* fees under section 106.

In view therefore of the proposed amendment of the Bengal Tenancy Act, I would

The whole question of the working of section 106 will come under review when the proposed amendments to Chapter X of the Tenancy Act are brought forward.

P. C. L.—13-11-96.

humbly submit these two points—the necessity of requiring the same Court-fees being affixed to complaints under section 106 as would be insisted upon by a Civil Court, and of fixing a limit of time, say 4 months from the date of draft publication, for instituting section 106 cases—for the consideration of the authorities. Of course the change which will be welcomed by the Settlement Officers generally will be to be relieved of these functions of a Civil Court which they have not been trained to perform and which do not a little impede the progress of their work.

Before leaving this subject I may be permitted to bring to the notice of the authorities another point of practical difficulty. Under section 92 of the Bengal Tenancy Act we have to ascertain the local standard of measurement, especially in the settlement of private estates, in most of which no authoritatively fixed standard exists, and in which

the landlords and tenants are generally found to fight over this question. It has been the practice so long in many settlements to try and decide such disputes under section 106. But the ruling of the High Court reported in page 477, Indian Law Report, Calcutta, Volume XXII for 1895, distinctly lays down that such cases cannot come under section 106. The question then arises how and by whom are such disputes to be decided, so that the decision may be binding. Under sub-section 3, section 92, the Local Government may, after local enquiry, declare for any local area the standard of measurement locally in use, but such declaration has only a presumptive value. No rules also seem to have so far been framed by the Local Government for the enquiry to be made under section 92 (3).

11.—*Final publication of records.*—This work could not be taken up within the past year, as many objections under section 105 were yet pending, and as fair rent had not been settled for the *baziāfti* tenures.

12. *Assessment of nij-jôt lands and of sairât.*—There was much confusion in recording *nij-jôt* lands at the time of attestation. Numerous applications have been filed for separating *rai-yati* lands from *nij-jôt*, and many of them are yet pending. Until these objections are decided, the work of assessing *nij-jôt* lands cannot be taken up. Besides, final orders as to the mode in which they are to be assessed were not received till the last week of September.

There is not much *sairât* to be assessed in these estates. Lands growing such special crops as betel-leaf, sugarcane, &c., were assessed at particular soil-class rates in the last settlement, and their existing rents have now, with the acceptance of the parties, been enhanced under the sanctioned rates. There are a few *hâts*, or rather apologies for them, within the estates, but they do not yield, as far as I have been able to ascertain by careful local enquiry, any profit to the owners. Only a few fisheries will have to be assessed.

13. *Assessment of jagir lands.*—In the last settlement all *patwari jagirs* were ordered to be assessed at full rates, but a favour was shown to the then present holders, in that they were allowed to hold their *jagir* lands at half rent during their life-time. Only nine such *patwaris* yet live and hold their *jagirs* at this *nisfi* rate, and the *jagirs* of all other *patwaris* have now been assessed at full rates, together with the same enhancement as has been made in the case of *rai-yati* lands. Reports about the treatment of police *paikân jagirs* and village *chakran jagirs* have been submitted, but no final orders on them have yet been received.

14. *Cost with estimates.*—The cost of survey and settlement, as per estimate originally sanctioned by Government, was Rs. 11,000 for survey, including record-writing, and Rs. 11,313-2 for settlement. The total expenditure of the Survey Department, exclusive of record-writing, which was mostly done by the Settlement Department, was Rs. 11,874.

The total expenditure on settlement up to the end of survey year 1895-96, including record-writing, the cost of which was included in the survey estimates, was Rs. 17,775-4-5. The expenditure during the year of report is Rs. 8,875-15-5, making up a total expenditure on settlement, including *khândpuri*, of Rs. 26,651-3-10.

This by far exceeds the original estimate for the settlement, but it is mainly due to the slow progress of the operations brought on by the causes related in paragraph 3 above.

The budget allotment for the past survey year was Rs. 7,000, against which Rs. 8,875-15-5 were expended. A revised budget was submitted in April last for the financial year 1896-97, and final sanction to this revised budget has not yet been obtained.

15. *Maintenance of records.*—There are at present *patwaris* who are paid by Government and who record mutations in certain prescribed registers. Proposals for remodelling this establishment, with a view to keeping all the settlement records up to date, have been submitted, but final orders have not yet been received.

16. *General Remarks.*—When I took over charge of the Pataspur work, I noticed much discontent existing in the pargana regarding the new assessment. Acting, however, under the sympathetic guidance of the Collector, who takes interest in every detail of my work, and by patiently listening to the objections and grievances of the people, I succeeded in a couple of months in restoring the confidence of the people in our work, and since then my relations with the people have been consistently cordial. The operations have been followed with much keener interest and appreciation by the landlords and tenants, than seem to have been the case before. Chowdhury Gopendra Nandan Das Mohapatra, the principal zamindar of the pargana, has, as in the past years, cordially co-operated with the Settlement Officer in all matters. I regret, however, that I am not able to speak in as warm terms about the proprietor of the Srirampur estate. The unconciliatory spirit displayed by the zamindar, Mohashay Harendra Narain Ray of Laksmān Nath, district Balasore, is not quite in keeping with the excellent traditions of his family.

17. The statement prescribed by Government Order No. 147T.—R., dated 7th June 1894, and the one prescribed by Director's Circular No. 538, dated 11th September 1896, are submitted herewith.

Annual Return of Khanapuri Work.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER EMPLOYED.	Name of Circle.	Number of villages in the Circle.	Area of the Circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH KHANA- PURI WORK WAS COMPLETED--				Number of villages of which khanapuri is going on but is in- complete.	Number of villages in- spected by Revenue Officer during the year under report.	Number of amins in- spected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of plots of which the khasra entries were tested during the year.	REMARKS.
				Up to end of the previous year.		During the year under report.						
				Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Babu Girish Chandra Dutt.	Pataspur Estates,	96	54.7	96	54.7	...	...	...	...	...	...	

Annual Return of Boundary Disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF—			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE MONTH UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
	To the end of the previous year.	During the year under report.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year under report.	Total.		Instituted.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Babu Girish Chandra Dutt.	29	...	29	29	...	29	...	...	...	...	...	...	

Annual Return of Attestation Work, including final publication of Records.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of Circle.	Number of villages in the Circle.	Area of the Circle in square miles.	Number of villages for which records have been received from the Survey Department.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.				NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT PUBLISHED.		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED.		REMARKS.
					Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year under report.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year under report.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Babu Girish Chandra Dutt.	Pataspur Estates.	96	54.7	96	96	54.7	14,056	81,587	...	...	...	...	...	95	...	...	...

Annual Return of Cases under Section 104 of the Tenancy Act for Settlement of Fair Rents.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of Circle.	Area of Circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH CASES HAVE BEEN INSTITUTED.			NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH CASES HAVE BEEN DISPOSED OF.			NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED.			Former rental of tenants included in column 12.	New rental settled for tenants in column 12.	NUMBER OF DECISIONS APPEALED AGAINST TO SPECIAL JUDGE.			NUMBER OF APPEALS DECIDED.			NUMBER OF DECISIONS OF REVENUE OFFICER AS IN COLUMN 20—			REMARKS.
			To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.			To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Babu Promotho Nath Dutta.	Pataspur Estates ...	54.7	60	60	120	...	41	41	...	3,960	3,960	Rs. 21,023	Rs. 26,657	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Babu Girish Chandra Dutta.			36	36	72	...	55	55	...	6,164	6,164	27,234	30,714	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...			96	96	192	...	96	96	...	10,124	10,124	48,317	57,381	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Annual Return of Objections under Section 105 and Disputes under Section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Nature of case.	NUMBER INSTITUTED—			NUMBER DISPOSED OF—			Number remaining at the end of the year under report.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
		Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year under report.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year under report.	Total.		Instituted.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
											Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Babu Girish Chandra Dutt.	(1) Objections heard and considered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act.	..	1,748	1,748	..	1,164	1,164	584	..	..	..	..	..	
	(3) Disputes tried as Civil Suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	..	5	5	..	3	3	2	..	..	..	..	..	

Annual Financial Statement.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Expenditure to end of the previous year (against each sub-head).	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head) under report.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Payment and special allowance of—			
Settlement Officer ...	9,003 7 7	4,010 6 8	
Assistant Settlement Officers ...			
2. Fixed establishment ...		1,801 2 1	
3. Temporary establishment ...	7,081 14 3	1,183 13 10	
4. Contract and job work ...		.....	
5. Travelling allowance—			
Of Officers ...	.....	924 2 0	
Of establishment ...	.....	328 13 6	
6. Supplies and services—			
Forms ...			
Tents ...			
Petty construction ...	.....	55 12 7	
repairs ...			
7. Contingencies—			
Hot-weather charges ...			
Office rent ...	1,689 14 7	542 15 3	
Service telegrams ...			
postage charges ...			
8. Remuneration to copyists ...	.....	28 14 0	
&c. &c. &c.			
Total ...	17,775 15 5	8,875 15 5	

Statement showing the status and rent of Tenants as recorded in the Khatians from the commencement of the year under report.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LANDS.					REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class.	Average area of cultivated lands per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per cultivated acre.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Acres.	Acres.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Proprietor's sir (nij-jot) ...	192	1,761'21	17'16	...	...	
2. Held by proprietors, but not true sir ...						
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders ...	1,592	2,916'83	1'54	...	...	
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents ...	...	...	...	...	...	
5. Settled raiyats ...	3,710	16,791'40	1'33	46,784 1 10	2 12 0	
6. Occupancy raiyats ...						
7. Non-occupancy raiyats ...	867	527'42	'61	...	...	
8. Rent-free holders ...	1,924	7,004'45	3'64	...	...	
Total ...	13,545	28,900'39	...	...	...	

GIRISH CHUNDRA DUTT,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX VII.

No. 133S., dated Khanjanpur, the 5th October 1896.

From—SORAB S. DAY, Esq., Settlement Officer, Jaipur Government Estates, Bogra,
To—The Collector of Bogra.

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith the Annual Report on the progress in the settlement of the Jaipur Government estates in the district of Bogra, for the survey year commencing on 1st October 1895 and ending on 30th September 1896.

2. *General information.*—These estates were notified for survey and settlement under Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act in Government notification of 24th January 1893. The estates are eight in number, and are comprised in 156 villages. One hundred and fourteen belong entirely to Government, except some specific plots or lands called *chits* in some of the villages which belong to other proprietors. In the remaining 42 villages Government has a share along with other proprietors. All these villages lie to the east and the west of the Northern Bengal State Railway line, making them very easily accessible from Jaipur Hât Railway Station, from which Khanjanpur, the head-quarters of the estates, is only a couple of miles.

3. Settlement operations were commenced by Babu Nitya Nanda Ghose on the 9th February 1894. He, however, very soon reverted to general duty on the 18th August 1894. In his stead Babu Sarat Chandra Das, Deputy Collector, was sent on the 27th November 1894. Reverting to general duty on the 15th June 1895, the latter again took up his work after the recess on the 1st November 1895, and worked on up to 17th June 1896, when he again reverted to general duty, giving over charge of his duties to me on that day. During the year under report Babu Sarat Chandra Das was on tour for 61 days.

The rains having partly set in when I took over charge, and the raiyats being too busy to attend, as they had commenced operations on their fields, I found it impossible to go out on an extended tour. Besides, for more than a month after I took over charge, I was fully occupied with acquainting myself with the state of the records of the villages returned as attested, and in superintending the work of correction. I, however, did not neglect outdoor work, but spent 15 days in holding local enquiries and checking *khanapuri*, &c.

4. *Record-writing.*—A Professional party of the Survey of India completed the whole of survey and *khanapuri* during the field seasons of 1893-94 and 1894-95.

On the representations, however, of Babu Sarat Chandra Das as to the inaccuracy of the *khanapuri* of several villages, the Director of Land Records passed orders in April 1895 that the *khasras* should be checked on the ground, and accordingly the *khanapuri* of 55 villages was checked during the year 1894-95. This work of revision of *khanapuri* was continued during the year under report, the *khanapuri* of 99 more villages being revised.

From the monthly returns I find that Babu Sarat Chandra Das inspected during the year the *khanapuri* of 28 villages and tested 5,410 plots.

Since my arrival I have personally checked the *khanapuri* of 12 villages and tested close on 500 plots.

5. *Attestation.*—Up to 30th September 1895 the attestation of the records of 11 villages was completed.

During the year under report the monthly returns show that 110 villages of the Jaipur Government estates, and one belonging to a private estate with 3,657 tenancies, contained in 31,242 plots and comprising an area of 29.11 square miles, were completely attested. Consequently 35 villages with 5,743 tenancies, contained in 26,157 plots, still remain to be attested.

6. *Settlement of fair rents.*—In consequence of the numerous errors which came to light, and the consequent corrections and alterations in the records of the attested villages, in course of the work of check ordered by the Director of Land Records in his letter No. 280T.S., dated the 25th July 1896, I was unable to start the work of assessment before the last week of September 1896.

7. *Boundary disputes.*—Thirty boundary disputes were disposed of during 1894-95. During the year under report 53 more were disposed of. There are at present 11 pending. I would have finished these long ago, had it not been for the frequent adjournments I was forced to grant on account of illness of parties. They will, I am afraid, now have to remain over till December, as the sites of the disputes are under water.

8. *Case work.*—Three hundred and eighteen miscellaneous petitions were disposed of during the year. A great many of these petitions were for mutation of names, occasioned by transfers of holdings or decease of raiyats.

9. *Assessment, &c.*—As stated above, I was unable to commence the work of assessment before the last week of September 1896. The late Settlement Officer, Babu Sarat Chandra Das, with the help of the Manager, prepared and submitted an elaborate report on the rates of rent in the villages exclusively owned by Government. A rate report on the *ijmali* villages will be prepared and submitted, as soon as I obtain the necessary materials for it.

10. *Cost.*—The following table will show the cost of survey and settlement during the year and from the beginning:—

DURING THE YEAR.		FROM THE BEGINNING.	
Survey.	Settlement.	Survey.	Settlement.
1	2	3	4
Nil	Rs. 9,620	Rs. 12,625	Rs. 18,273

Nothing as yet has been arranged about the realisation of costs from private proprietors, whose lands are intermingled with those of Government and who have applied for settlement of their lands.

11. *Miscellaneous.*—The work I have been doing here since my arrival has been mainly confined to checking and correcting the records of villages already attested by the late Settlement Officer. This has been done not only at head-quarters, but the records have been taken to the villages, sometimes for correction, and sometimes for reattestation.

An idea of the work may be formed from the remarks of the Director of Land Records in his inspection note of the 29th and 30th April 1896. I need not, therefore, dilate any further on it.

Coming from Bihar, I have been very much struck by the totally different attitude of the raiyats towards the settlement operations here from what I experienced in Bihar. In Muzaffarpur the most ignorant raiyat takes an uncommonly keen interest in every phase of the work, from the *kistwar* down to final publication of the records. In the Jaipur estates the raiyats are quite callous about everything. They very often do not know the boundaries of their fields, whereas in the west they always had them at their fingers' ends. One can very well understand the chagrin and disappointment of an officer when after a painstaking explanation of a khatian the raiyat merely shakes his head and says:—"Perhaps that is it." I was once thunderstruck on finding that amongst a crowd of raiyats assembled at a field in a certain village, not a single one of them could tell me at a guess the approximate area of the field in local bighas on looking at it. Strange to say, even after I had measured the length and breadth by means of a measuring rod, they confessed their inability to state what the area ought to be. In Bihar the very urchins making mud-pies on the road, on being questioned, could make a rough guess at the area of a field on looking at it.

Another very striking contrast is the comparative wealth and comfort of the peasant in these estates to the squalid poverty in Bihar. One reason for this I take to be, among others, the successful management of the estate by the present Manager, Babu Annada Nanda Sen, who is so easily accessible to the humblest raiyat that they bring even their domestic quarrels to him for adjudication.

Another prominent factor in promoting the well-being of the raiyat here is the cultivation of jute, an extremely paying commodity. There are of course a great many other causes, namely, the great fertility of the soil, requiring very little cultivation and no irrigation whatever, in order to produce a good crop, the sparsity of the population, which accounts for the large tracts of waste and jungle lands, and the extremely low rate of rents all over the estates. I am inclined to think that these facts are only to be widely known in the congested districts in Bihar, in order to ensure an influx of poor, able-bodied and hard-working peasants into these estates. They would no doubt supply the stiffening element which the peasants here so sadly require, but I am afraid would also bring with them rowdiness and crime into a place where serious offences are very rare.

12. *Future programme.*—The following is the work which has to be done during the next year:—

- (1) Attestation of the remaining 35 villages with 5,743 tenancies, 26,157 plots, and comprising an area of 19.87 square miles.
- (2) Check (and in many cases re-attestation, and in all cases visiting the village concerned) of the records of about 50 villages already returned as attested.
- (3) Statistical preparation prior to assessment of all the 156 villages comprising the estates.
- (4) Settlement of fair rents.
- (5) Draft publication of all the 156 villages.
- (6) Any case work that may arise under sections 105 and 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.
- (7) Final publication of all records.
- (8) Preparation of copies of records, &c.

By the latest forecast, it has been estimated that the settlement will probably be completed by the end of March 1897. But I am inclined to think, considering the amount of work to be gone through, that it will take some more time.

In conclusion, I have to acknowledge the valuable advice and willing assistance I have received in my work from Babu Annada Nanda Sen, Manager of the Jaipur estates. Not only has he, as Manager, looked after the interests of Government with commendable energy, thus helping me most materially at arriving at correct conclusions, but my special acknowledgments are due to him for working along with me as a most valuable colleague in my daily work, in the office and in the field. I consider myself fortunate in having the benefit not only of his long, ripe and varied experience in all khas mahal matters, but also of his thorough and intimate knowledge of these estates in particular.

Annual Return of Revision of Khanapuri for the year ending 30th September 1896.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER EMPLOYED.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH KHANAPURI WORK WAS COMPLETED.				Number of villages of which khanapuri is going on, but is incomplete.	Number of villages inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of amins inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of plots of which the khasra entries were tested during the year.	REMARKS.
				Up to end of the previous year.		During the year.						
				No.	Area in square miles.	No.	Area in square miles.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Babu Sarat Chandra Das.	Jaipur Government estates.	156	55.5	156*	55.5*	...	...	...	37	30	5,866	* The khanapuri being found defective was redone in 55 villages in 1894-95 and in 99 villages in 1895-96.
S. S. Day, Esq.	Private estate No. 54	...	...	...	...	3	307	...	3	2	44	
	Total	...	...	166	55.5	3	307	...	40	32	5,910	

Annual Return of Boundary Disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act for the year ending 30th September 1896.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF.			NUMBER remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
	To the end of the pre-vious year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Babu Sarat Chandra Das	80	14	94	30	63	93	11	..	..	...	...	...	

Annual Return of Attestation Work, including final publication of Records for the year ending 30th September 1896.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	Number of villages for which records have been received from the Survey Department.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.				NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT PUBLISHED.		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED.		REMARKS.
					Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Babu Sarat Chandra Das.	Jaipur Government estates.	166	55.5	157	11	2.3	354	2,007	110	28.61	3,607	30,795	...	...	...	...	
S. S. Day, Esq. ...	...				Private estate No. 54.				...	1	3	50	447	...	...	...	...
								...	111	29.11	3,657	31,242	...	...	...	...	

Annual Financial Statement for the year ending 30th September 1896.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Expenditure to end of the previous year (against each sub-head),	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head)	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Pay and special allowance of—	(a)		
Settlement Officer	4,345 7 3	3,546 10 8	(a) Rupees 20-12-0, or Rs. 30 has been excluded from this being the unauthorised special allowance of Babu N. N. Ghose, from 23rd January to 8th February 1894, as pointed out by Accountant-General, Bengal, in his No. 508 T.A., dated 13th September 1895.
Assistant Settlement Officers ... ..	.....	.....	
2. Fixed establishment	1,048 15 0	933 15 11	
3. Temporary establishment	1,436 4 1	4,108 2 3	
4. Contract and job work ... ..	.....	.....	
5. Travelling allowance—			
Of officers	472 8 0	413 7 6	
Of establishment	87 10 0	32 0 0	
6. Supplies and services—			
Forms ... ..	.....	.....	
Tents ... ..	.....	.....	
Petty construction			(b) Rupees 7-7-3, drawn in September 1895, was not shown last year, and now it has been included.
„ repairs ... ..	.....	.....	
Countrystationery ... ..	.....	.....	
7. Contingencies—	(b)		
Office expenses	1,261 14 2	535 12 0	
Hot-weather charges ... ..	.....	.....	
Office rent ... ..	.....	.....	
Service telegrams ... ..	.....	.....	
„ postage charges ... ..	.....	.....	
Miscellaneous ... ..	.....	.....	
Total	8,652 10 6	9,620 0 4	

During the year.

I.—Pay and allowances (including travelling allowance) of Settlement Officer	Rs. A. P.
II.—Pay and travelling allowance of Head Office establishment	3,960 2 2
III.—Khanapuri	965 15 11
IV.—Attestation	4,108 2 3
V.—Case-work	.....
VI.—Draft and final publication	.....
VII.—Copying and Terij Department	.....
VIII.—Miscellaneous	555 12 0
	9,620 0 4

No. 15 (4).—Statement showing the status and rent of Tenants as recorded in the Khatians for the year ending 30th September 1896.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LANDS.					REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class.	Average area of cultivated lands per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per cultivated acre.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Proprietor's sir (nij jote)	...	Acres.	Bighas.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	
2. Held by proprietors, but not true sir	40	3,882 65	...	...	...	
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders	1	109 78	109 78	37	0 5 4	
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents	30	803 55	20 79	330	0 6 9	
5. Settled raiyats	2,223	8,037 52	3 61	18,656	2 5 1	
6. Occupancy raiyats	...	...	...	...	...	
7. Non-occupancy raiyats	1,270	3,711 89	2 91	7,774	2 1 6	
8. Rent-free holders	38	312 73	8 24	...	...	
Total	3,607	17,948 12	154 23	26,847	5 2 8	

No. 15 (4).—Statement showing the status and rent of Tenants as recorded in the Khatians for the year ending 30th September 1896.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LANDS.					REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class.	Average area of cultivated lands per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per cultivated acre.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	
		Acres.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	
PRIVATE ESTATE No. 54.						
1. Proprietor's sir (nij jote)	...	21 82	...	...	...	
2. Held by proprietors, but not true sir	...	...	...	...	...	
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders	...	...	...	...	...	
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents	...	...	...	...	...	
5. Settled raiyats	41	155 78	4 53	199	1 1 1	
6. Occupancy raiyats	...	...	...	...	...	
7. Non-occupancy raiyats	9	10 25	1 15	14	1 6 4	
8. Rent-free holders	...	...	...	...	...	
Total	50	196 03	5 78	213	2 7 5	

I MADE a settlement camp at Jaipur in January, and there arranged with the Collector and the Revenue Officer the terms on which the different classes of land were to be assessed. Our conclusions, with the data as regards selected areas on which they were founded, were embodied in a rate report, and approved by the Board of Revenue. This is the real work of settlement, inasmuch as it fixes for the raiyat what he has to pay, for the State what is to be the revenue received. The preliminary measurements are preparatory to this assessment, the subsequent case-work, if there is any, a consequence necessarily resulting. It was formerly possible to correct errors at a later stage, and in fact the decision of the Board was generally deferred until the final report was received; but under the Bengal Tenancy Act rents cannot be raised at that stage, while there is little probability that they will be lowered. The principle of assessment adopted is that of levelling up the rates, which are now very unequal, to those paid in places more highly assessed, and the enhancement will apparently be about 22 per cent.

2. The other work done was the khanapuri of 33 square miles, the attestation of 29.11 square miles, the testing of 5,910 khasra entries as to plots, the settlement of 53 boundary disputes. The progress has been slow—a fact I attribute in the first place to the impediments which prevented Government deputing a Settlement Officer until the survey was nearly complete, with the resulting defects and misunderstandings; secondly, to the transfer of that officer in the course of his work; and lastly, to the appointment of a successor, who, although a man of sound judgment, was somewhat old and inactive for field duties. He has been replaced since the close of the year.

P. NOLAN,
Commissioner.

No. 1230 Rct., dated Darjeeling, the 24th October 1896.

Memo. by—The Commissioner of the Rajshahi Division.

Copy forwarded to the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal, with reference to his Circular No. 53S., dated the 11th September 1896.

APPENDIX VIII.

No. 193, dated Barisal, the 8th October 1896.

From—BABU PYARI MOHAN BASU, Settlement Officer of Backergunge,
To—The Collector of Backergunge.

WITH reference to circular No. 538., dated 11th September 1896, from the Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal, I have the honour to submit herewith the following report on the progress of survey and settlement of the several estates under my charge for the year ending 30th September 1896.

GOVERNMENT ESTATES.

2. The following Government estates in the district of Backergunge were under settlement according to the provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Act :—

				Acres.
I.—Char Bairagia	...	...	...	4,639
II.—Char Ramesh ...	...	...	...	1,536
III.—Char Nalgora ...	...	...	...	672
IV.—Surplus accretion to char Lakhi <i>alias</i> Padma Manasa				1,434
V.—Heshamuddin ...	...	...	...	9,659
VI.—Tushkali ...	...	...	...	23,037
VII.—Char Krishnapura	...	...	...	2,347
				43,324
				= 67.69 sq miles.

3. (i) *Char Bairagia, No. 5216.*—Government notification for survey and settlement of this estate was issued on the 14th March 1890.

4. The settlement of this estate was completed by Mr. Dwija Das Datta in 1893; but on an appeal preferred by some of the raiyats, his proceedings were declared by the Special Judge as illegal and altogether void.

5. Accordingly the rents of the raiyats were resettled and the records were revised and published finally by me before October 1895. The final report was submitted during the year, and it has been sanctioned by the Board. The net result of the present settlement showed an increase of Rs. 2,216 over the previous revenue of Rs. 9,773.

6. (ii) *Char Ramesh, No. 6359.*—The final report of this estate was submitted before October 1895. It is pending with the Board of Revenue. The total area of this estate is 1,536 acres. The net Government revenue according to present settlement amounted to Rs. 3,028 against Rs. 72 of previous settlement. The estate has been held khas, and the new rents are being collected without difficulty.

7. (iii) *Char Nalgora, No. 5231.*—The settlement of this estate was ordered by Government notification dated 27th July 1894.

8. It contains a total area of 672 acres held by 164 raiyats. The records were published finally before October 1895. The net result shewed an increase of Rs. 717 over the previous revenue of Rs. 1,596.

9. There was a *howla* tenure covering the whole estate. The *howla* was purchased on behalf of Government in a sale for arrears of revenue under Act XI of 1859, and all the *nim howlas* and *osat nim howlas* created by the *quondam* howladars were voided; so raiyats were recorded as holding directly under Government. The *nim howladars* instead of raising any dispute before me sued some of the tenants in the Civil Court for arrears of rent. Their suits were dismissed in the Court of the first instance, but the appeals are yet pending in the Court of the Subordinate Judge. Pending the results of these appeals, the final report, which is ready, has not been submitted.

10. (iv) *Surplus accretion to char Lakhi alias Padma Manasa, No. 6486.*—It is a temporarily-settled private estate. Its total area is 1,434 acres comprised in 1,336 plots. The lands are held by 3 *osat talukdars*, 8 *howladars*, 1 *nim howladar* and 1 *abadkari jotedar* directly under the proprietors, and below these tenure-holders there are 124 raiyats.

11. This is the first settlement of the revenue. It was completed by Mr. Dwija Das Datta in 1894, but on appeal his proceedings were declared by the Special Judge as illegal and irregular, and the case was remanded for doing the work over again.

12. The records were accordingly revised, re-attested and published in draft before October 1895. They have since then been published finally. The Government revenue according to this settlement has been fixed at Rs. 2,953-15-9.

13. After the final publication the Special Judge has on a certain appeal ordered to record a *hebai taluk* over four annas share of two *howlas* which were recorded as tenures of the first degree, but observed that the above order of the Special Judge "shall not render the *howladars* liable to pay rents to the *hebai talukdar* as he chose not to make the *howladars* parties to the suit." A reference has therefore been made to the Board of Revenue as to how and what rent can be fixed for the *hebai talukdars*. Pending orders the final report has not been submitted.

14. (v) *Bhasan Daria Nungola* alias *Char Heshamuddin*, No. 4656.—It is an island and the property of Government. The Government notification for survey and settlement of this estate was issued on 6th October 1894.

15. It contains a total area of 9,659 acres comprised in 15,008 plots. The total number of tenants is 1,993, consisting of 28 tenure-holders, 1,044 raiyats and 921 under-raiyats.

16. The survey was completed before 1st October 1895. The records have been attested during the year under report, and I have disposed of 15 disputes and 351 miscellaneous objections, and settled fair rents of all grades of tenants, the net result showing an increase of Rs. 5,049 over the previous revenue of Rs. 14,494.

17. (vi) *Tushkali Estate*, No. 4642.—The survey and settlement of this estate was ordered by Government notification dated 10th December 1894.

18. The estate comprises 23 villages. The total area according to present survey is 23,037 acres comprised in 40,734 plots. The total number of tenants is 5,823, consisting of 82 tenure-holders, 4,499 raiyats and 1,242 under-raiyats.

Up to 30th September 1895 the survey and *khanapuri* were finished for all villages, and the initial records were completed for 21 villages only.

19. The following work was done during the year under report:—

- (a) Initial records completed for remaining two villages.
- (b) Attestation of records completed in all villages.
- (c) Statistical statements and *terij* prepared for all villages.
- (d) *Khatians* arranged and corrected according to orders passed at the time of attestation and subsequently for all villages.
- (e) Number of disputes disposed of is 24.
- (f) Number of miscellaneous objections disposed of is 1,372.

The settlement of fair rents will be taken in hand in the next cold weather.

20. (vii) *Char Krishnapura*, No. 5222.—It is a purchased estate. The Government notification for survey and settlement of this estate was issued on 23rd December 1895.

21. The survey and *khanapuri* were finished during the cold weather, and the initial records have been completed during the recess.

22. The total area according to present survey is 2,347 acres comprised in 4,044 plots. The estimated number of tenants is 704, including the under-raiyats.

WARDS' ESTATES.

23. (i) *Dakhin Shahbazpur Estate*.—Pargana Dakhin Shahbazpur comprises two estates, Nos. 1763 and 1764, of the Backergunge *tauzi*, the former comprising 12a. 18g. 1k. 2kt. and the latter 3a. 1g. 2k. 1kt. share of the entire pargana.

24. It consists of 37 villages on the main land of the Dakhin Shahbazpur island and 10 chars in the river Meghna, comprising a total area of 146·58 square miles, surveyed in 174,678 plots and embodied in 30,125 *khatians*.

25. Up to 30th September 1895 the records were completed and published finally in respect of all the villages and the *chars*. They have been made over to the Collectorate record-room during the year under report.

26. Apportionment of the expenditure between landlords and the tenants was also completed in the previous year. The total expenditure on the operations, including the cost of apportionment and recovery, amounted to Rs. 99,480, of which Rs. 77,962 were to be apportioned and recovered under section 114 of the Bengal Tenancy Act. Of this sum Rs. 35,501 were recovered up to 30th September 1895. A further sum of Rs. 24,927 has been realised during the year, and certificates have been filed for the unrealised balance.

27. The final report of the operations has been prepared and submitted to the Director of the Department of Land Records.

28. The expenditure incurred during the year was Rs. 1,351.

29. (ii) *Srirampur Estates*.—Pargana Srirampur comprises zamindari Baidya Nath Mitra, No. 3574, and two *kharija taluks*, Nos. 3575 and 3613, called respectively *Aku Rabi Ullah* and *Fatema Khanam*. Survey and settlement of these estates were undertaken under the sanction conveyed in the Board's letter No. 133A., dated 23rd January 1893.

30. These estates comprise nine villages with a total area of 6,086 acres surveyed in 13,988 plots, and contain 2,215 tenants of all grades.

31. Up to 30th September 1895 attestation of records was completed in all villages, and fair rents were settled for two villages, and the records were published in draft in respect of eight villages, and finally in respect of one village.

32. The settlement work remaining to be done has since been completed, and the records have been published finally in respect of all the villages.

33. The apportionment of the expenditure between the landlords and the tenants has also been completed,* and out of the total sum of Rs. 8,538 to be recovered under section 114, Rs. 2,472 have been realised up to 30th September 1896.

34. The work remaining to be done at the close of the year was—

- (i) To make over the records to the Collectorate record-room.
- (ii) To prepare and submit the final report.
- (iii) To recover Rs. 6,065 due on account of the cost of the operation.

35. The expenditure incurred during the year, including the cost of recovery, is Rs. 2,078.

PRIVATE ESTATES.

36. (i) *Chiknikandi and Pankhali Haridebpur*.—Chiknikandi and Pankhali Haridebpur are two *thakbast holkas* appertaining to the *kharija taluks* Nos. 1725, 1726 and 1727 of pargana Chandradwip, and No. 3567 of pargana Sultanabad, and No. 1636 of pargana Buzrug Umedpur of the Backergunge district.

37. According to manzawar register these taluks comprise 22 villages surveyed in 13 *thakbast holkas*, of which these two *holkas* have been brought under survey and settlement under section 101, sub-section 2 (b), with a view to avert serious disputes existing between landlords and tenants generally. The Government notifications for the survey and settlement of these two *holkas* were issued on 9th February 1895 and 18th November 1895, respectively.

38. *Holka* Chiknikandi comprises 7 villages with a total area of 3,477 acres, and *holka* Pankhali Haridebpur comprises 2 villages containing 2,819 acres. They are very close to the Bay of Bengal, and are low, jungly and intersected by numerous khals.

39. The original talukdars privately divided the lands of these villages into 7-anna, 8½-anna and ½-anna shares. In making the partition they allowed the lands of the three parganas to be mixed up, and some of the shareholders obtained more lands in one village and less or none in others. The papers relating to this partition, which was made before 1165 (B.S.), are not forthcoming. Thus, while this partition gave rise to great complications of interests, it has now become a very fruitful source of dispute among the numerous proprietors who own these taluks in very small shares. Some of the proprietors, or at least the stronger ones among them, are claiming a full share of lands in villages in which they had only a small amount of land, or none at all. Another source of dispute is that subordinate to these taluks each of the proprietor owns what is called his *nij howla*. He pays the rent of such *howla* to himself and collects the whole of the rents in respect of the lands comprised therein. Each of them therefore tries to include as much as he can in his *nij howla*, and this gives rise to disputes in which both the proprietors and the tenants take part.

40. The seven villages of *holka* Chiknikandi were surveyed last year. Attestation of records has been completed during the year. I have also disposed of 18 boundary disputes 143 objections, and one dispute under section 106, and published the records of three villages in draft. The records of the remaining four villages could not be published pending disposal of suits for settlement of fair rents, which are being hotly contested by the parties concerned.

41. Two villages—Pankhali and Haridebpur—have been surveyed during the year and the initial records have been completed.

42. As the operation has been taken in hand at the instance of only one of the proprietors, the others are trying all means in their power to throw obstacles in the way of the settlement. The progress is therefore very much retarded.

43. The total expenditure incurred up to 30th September 1896 on account of both the *holkas* is Rs. 3,792.

44. (ii) *Ulania taluks*.—The Ulania taluks were brought under survey and settlement on the application of the *patnidars* and *durpatnidars* by Government notification dated 29th February 1892.

45. The taluks contain 31 villages comprising a total area of 9,455 acres. The total number of tenants, including under-raiyats, is 2,998.

46. The settlement work in connection with these taluks was completed before 1st October 1895. The only work remaining to be done was—

- (a) The delivery of the records to the Collectorate record-room.
- (b) Recovery of cost and distribution of copies of records to the tenants.

47. The records have since been made over to the Collectorate. Out of the net sum of Rs. 16,114 to be recovered, a sum of Rs. 7,004 was realised up to 30th September 1895. Of the remaining sum the talukdars have been permitted by Government order No. 894T.—R., dated 8th November 1895, to pay Rs. 7,154 by instalments extending from January 1897 to March 1898, and Rs. 1,937 were recovered up to 30th September 1896, leaving a balance of Rs. 19, which has been realised since the close of the year.

48. The total expenditure incurred during the year is Rs. 102.

SETTLEMENT OF GOVERNMENT ESTATES UNDER THE OLD REGULATIONS.

49. In addition to the settlements under the Bengal Tenancy Act, I have charge of all settlements under the old Regulations in the district of Backergunge. The following

50. *Establishment.*—Babu Akhil Chandra Rai was employed as Assistant Settlement Officer in the previous year. He left the department on promotion on 20th October 1895. Since then three Sub-Deputy Collectors were one after another nominated and deputed by the Collector to work with me, but they were all rejected by higher authorities. Being merely temporarily deputed, none of these officers gave heart to the work; so I received no material assistance from any of them.

Name of Revenue Officer employed.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle,	Area of the circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH KHANAPURI WORK WAS COMPLETED—				Number of villages of which Khanapuri is going on but is incomplete.	Number of villages inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of amins inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of plots of which the returns entries were tested during the year.	REMARKS.	
				Up to the end of the previous year.		During the year.							
				Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
Jabn Pyari Mohan Basu, Settlement Officer.	Tushkahi Heshamuddin... .. Char Romesh „ Nalgora „ Bairagia Padma Manasa Char Krishnapura	28	35'99	23	35'99								
		5	15'09	5	15'09								
		1	2'40	1	2'40								
		1	1'05	1	1'05								
		1	7'25	1	7'25								
		1	2'24	1	2'24								
		1	3'67			1	3'67						
		33	67'69	32	64'02	1	3'67						
Chiknirkandi Pankhali Haridebpur	7	5'43	7	5'43							399		
	2	4'28			2	4'28			2	4	399		
	9	9'71	7	5'43	2	4'28			2	4	399		

Name of Revenue Officer.	NUMBER INSTITUTED -			NUMBER DISPOSED OF -			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE MONTH UNDER REPORT—					REMARKS.
	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending from preceding year.	Decided	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Babu Pyari Mohun Basu, Settlement Officer.	7	1	8	6	GOVERNMENT ESTATES. 2 8 								
		18	18		CHIKNIKANDI. 18 18 								

Annual Return of Attestation Work, including final publication of Records.

Name of Revenue Officer.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	Number of villages for which records have been received from the Survey Department.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.				NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT PUBLISHED.		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED.		REMARKS.
					Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Dabu Pyari Mohun Basu, Settlement Officer.	Tashkali Hoshamuddin Char Romesh Char Nalgora Bairagi Padma Manasa Krishnapura	23	35'90	23	...	...	...	...	23	35'90	4,500	44,722	...	...	...	...	...
		5	15'09	5	...	...	...	...	5	15'09	1,063	14,963	...	...	...	...	...
		1	2'40	1	1	3'40	59	90	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
		1	1'05	1	1	1'05	104	1,135	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
		1	7'25	1	1	7'25	1,202	10,251	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
		1	2'24	1	1	2'24	139	1,336	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
	1	3'07	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	33	67'69	33	4	12'94	1,624	3,627	28	51'08	5,558	59,705	4	...	...	3	1	
	Dakshin Shahbazpur Srirampur	47	146'33	47	47	146'33	30,125	174,673	...	...	...	...	...	47	...	47	...
		9	9'13	9	9	9'13	1,645	13,983	...	...	...	...	...	8	1	4	5
56		155'71	56	56	155'71	31,270	183,666	...	...	...	...	...	55	1	51	5	
ChikniKandi	7	5'43	7	...	...	...	...	7	5'43	1,043	3,320	...	3	...	...	...	
	PRIVATE ESTATES.																

Annual Return of cases under section 104 of the Tenancy Act for settlement of Fair Rents.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Area of circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH CASES HAVE BEEN INSITUED—			NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH CASES HAVE BEEN DISPOSED OF—			NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED—			Former rental of tenants included in column 12.	New rental settled for tenants in column 12.	NUMBER OF DECISIONS APPLIED AGAINST TO SPECIAL JUDGE.			NUMBER OF APPEALS DECIDED.			NUMBER OF DECISIONS OF REVENUE OFFICER AS IN COLUMN 20—			REMARKS.			
			To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.			To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24			
Babu Pyari Mohan Basu, Settlement Officer.	Heshamuddin	15.09	...	5	5	...	5	5	...	1,071	1,071	23,559 6 11	Rs. A. P. 29,751 7 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
	Char Romesh	2.40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,038 6 0	3,038 6 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
	Nalgura	1.05	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,882 1 10	4,035 12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
	Bairanga	7.25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,431 14 6 1/2	5,348 11 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
	Padma Manasa	2.24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,813 8 3	7,761 1 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
		28.03	3	5	8	3	5	8	936	1,071	2,007	37,715 5 6 1/2	49,975 5 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Dakhin Shahbazpur Sitrampur												WARDS' ESTATES.														
		146.68	37	...	37	37	...	37	30,125	...	30,125	3,51,432 1 10	3,63,872 11 11	20	...	20	1	19	20	19	...	...	1			
		9.13	2	...	2	1	1	2	1,481	...	1,481	20,049 13 8	20,049 13 3	2	...	1	...	3	3	3	...	...	...			
		155.71	39	...	39	38	1	39	31,606	...	31,606	3,71,481 15 1	3,83,922 9 2	22	1	23	1	22	23	22	...	...	1			
Chiknikandi												PRIVATE ESTATES.														
		5.43	...	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		

Annual Return of Objections under section 105 and disputes under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Nature of case.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF—			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.		
		Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—					
											Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
Babu Pyari Mohan Basu, Settlement Officer.					GOVERNMENT ESTATES.											
	(1) Miscellaneous objections	437	1,695	2,132	409	1,723	2,132	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Out of 23 cases shown in column 9, 11 cases have been disposed of since the close of the year.	
	(2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	7	51	58	6	29	35	23	1	1	...	1	...			
	(3) Execution of decrees ...	3	...	3	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...			
		10	51	61	9	29	38	23	1	1	...	1	...			
					PRIVATE ESTATES.											
	<i>Chiknikandi.</i>														The remanded cases have been disposed of.	
	(1) Miscellaneous objections	...	146	146	...	143	143	3	...	...	...	...	...	...		
	(2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106.	...	1	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
		...	147	147	...	144	144	3	...	...	...	...	...	...		
					WARDS' ESTATES.											
	<i>Dakhin Shahbazpur Estates.</i>															
	(1) Miscellaneous objections...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
	(2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	304	...	304	304	...	304	...	4	4	2	Remanded. 2	...	...		
	(3) Execution of decrees ...	9	43	52	9	30	39	13	...	...	...	...	...	...		
	<i>Srirampur Estates.</i>															
	(1) Miscellaneous objections...	113	...	113	113	...	113	...	...	3	...	...	...	...		
(2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106.	9	...	9	2	7	9	...	...	3	2	2	...	...			
(3) Execution of decrees ...	...	5	5	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...			
	435	48	483	428	37	465	18	7	6	4	2	...	...			

GOVERNMENT ESTATES.
Annual Financial Statement.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment (against each sub-head).	Expenditure to end of the previous year against each sub-head.	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head).	Balance remaining (against each sub-head).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		
1. Pay and special allowance of—					(1) Charges shown in this statement include the expenditure incurred on settlements under the Regulations. As no account of expenditure on account of each Government estate is kept separately, and new estates are brought under settlement every year, it is not possible to show accurately what expenditure was incurred in the previous years on account of estates now under settlement. The total expenditure incurred on account of Land Revenue settlements during survey years 1894-95 and 1895-96 has been shown in columns 3 and 4. (2) The allotment has been arrived at by adding the actual expenditure of October 1895 to March 1896 to the allotment of the current financial year.
Settlement Officer ... ..	.....	1,990 8 11	2,389 1 2		
Assistant Settlement Officers ... ..	.....	701 13 11	980 3 5		
2. Fixed establishment ... ..	.....	1,514 0 9	3,671 11 2		
3. Temporary establishment ... ..	.....	6,694 4 4	2,898 8 6		
4. Contract and job work ... ..	.....				
5. Travelling allowance—					
Of officers ... ..	.....	622 8 0	692 8 0		
Of establishment	36,941 5 4	357 7 6	525 0 0	11,014 13 0	
6. Supplies and services—					
Forms ... ..	.....	16 12 9	.....		
Tents ... ..	.....	.....	.....		
Petty construction ... ..	.....	.....	.....		
„ repairs... ..	.....	.....	.....		
7. Contingencies—					
Hot-weather charges ... ..	.....				
Office rent ... ..	.....				
Service telegrams ... ..	.....	1,073 8 1	1,208 7 10		
„ charges ... ..	.....				
&c. &c. &c. ... ..	.....				
	36,941 5 4	12,971 0 3	12,955 8 1	11,014 13 0	

DAKHIN SHAHBAZPUR ESTATES.

Annual Financial Statement.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment (against each sub-head).	Expenditure to end of the previous year (against each sub-head).	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head).	Balance remaining (against each sub-head).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Pay and special allowance of—					
Settlement Officer ...	.....	19,558 4 6	419 13 6	.....	
Assistant Settlement Officers ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
2. Fixed establishment ...	.....	20,175 2 0	770 0 9	.....	
3. Temporary establishment ...	.....	5,222 15 7	.....	.....	
4. Contract and job work ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
5. Travelling allowance—					
Of officers ...	.....	5,050 3 0	.....	37 3 2	
Of establishment ...	56,540 11 8	.....	.....	.....	
6. Supplies and services—					
Forms ...	.....	1,993 7 2	.....	.....	
Tents ...	.....	410 11 0	.....	.....	
Petty construction ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
„ repairs ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
7. Contingencies—					
Hot-weather charges ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Office rent ...	.....	2,742 2 3	100 12 9	.....	
Service telegrams ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
„ postage charges ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
&c., &c., &c. ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	56,540 11 8	55,132 13 6	1,350 11 0	37 3 2	

SRIRAMPUR ESTATES.

	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Pay and special allowance of—					
Settlement Officer ...	.....	2,031 7 9	367 12 10	.....	
Assistant Settlement Officers ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
2. Fixed establishment ...	.....	1,304 8 3	80 1 7	.....	
3. Temporary establishment ...	.....	776 0 3	.....	.....	
4. Contract and job work ...	.....	1,676 0 3	393 5 6	.....	
5. Travelling allowance—					
Of officers ...	.....	793 14 0	.....	.....	
Of establishment ...	9,075 0 0	257 8 0	79 4 0	234 15 6	
6. Supplies and services—					
Forms ...	.....	132 11 2	179 2 11	.....	
Tents ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Petty construction ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
„ repairs ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
7. Contingencies—					
Hot-weather charges ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Office rent ...	.....	565 12 0	197 8 0	.....	
Service telegrams ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
„ postage charges ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
&c., &c., &c. ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	9,075 0 0	6,761 13 5	2,078 3 1	234 15 6	

CHIKNIKANDI.

	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Pay and special allowance of—					
Settlement Officer ...		249 14 1	652 15 2		A revised statement of cost has been submitted for sanction.
Assistant Settlement Officers ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
2. Fixed establishment ...	.....	67 9 8	145 9 3	.....	
3. Temporary establishment ...	.....	245 0 3	512 2 9	.....	
4. Contract and job work ...	.....	513 4 1	528 5 0	.....	
5. Travelling allowance—					
Of officers ...	.....	71 10 0	194 4 0	.....	
Of establishment ...	2,939 12 0	42 2 0	126 4 0	.....	
6. Supplies and services—					
Forms ...	.....	44 0 0	85 13 9	.....	
Tents ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Petty construction ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
„ repairs ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
7. Contingencies—					
Hot-weather charges ...					
Office rent ...		151 14 10	161 6 3		
Service telegrams ...					
„ postage charges ...					
&c., &c., &c. ...					
Total ...	2,939 12 0	1,335 6 11	2,406 12 2		

GOVERNMENT ESTATES.

Statement showing the status and rent of Tenants as recorded in the Khatians from the commencement of the year under report.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LANDS.					REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class.	Average area of cultivated lands per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per cultivated acre.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Proprietor's <i>sir</i> (<i>nij-jote</i>)				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	(1) The statement relates to the Government estates Tushkali and Heshamuddin. (2) Most of the <i>howladars</i> partly sublet and partly themselves cultivate their lands, but do not pay the rent of the <i>khas</i> lands separately. Hence columns 5 and 6 could not be filled up. (3) The non-occupancy raiyats generally hold new <i>char</i> lands at low rates.
2. Held by proprietors, but not true <i>sir</i> ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
2(a). Tenure-holders occupying position of a middleman.	74	37 20	.....	16,146 11 0	.....	
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders.	36	220 22	6 12	.....	.....	
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
5. Settled raiyats	4,923	26,770 23	5 43	1,15,678 8 44	4 5 1	
6. Occupancy raiyats	419	1,786 01	4 28	7,521 5 1	4 3 4	
7. Non-occupancy raiyats	200	660 30	3 40	1,705 5 3	2 8 0½	
8. Rent-freeholders ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total	5,682	29,494 56		1,47,051 13 8½		

GBAKNIKANDI.

Statement showing the status and rent of Tenants as recorded in the Khatians from the commencement of the year under report.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LANDS.					REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class.	Average area of cultivated lands per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per cultivated acre.	
1. Proprietor's <i>sir</i> (<i>nij-jote</i>)				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Most of the <i>howladars</i> partly sublet and partly themselves cultivate their lands, but do not pay the rent of the <i>khas</i> lands separately. Hence columns 5 and 6 could not be filled up.
2. Held by proprietors, but not true <i>sir</i>	31	3 44	12	.....	.....	
2(a). Tenure-holders occupying position of a middleman.	201	.....	.....	6,588 9 1	.....	
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders.	183	825 37	4 51	.....	.....	
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
5. Settled raiyats	450	1,160 01	2 33	3,702 3 94	3 3 6	
6. Occupancy raiyats	3	2 78	92	2 15 0	0 15 8	
7. Non-occupancy raiyats	94	337 52	3 59	1,368 1 9	4 0 10	
8. Rent-freeholders	67	21 13	31	.....	.....	
Total	1,019	3,310 15		18,614 8 7½		

APPENDIX IX.

No. 153B., dated Muzaffarpur, the 23rd October 1896.

From - C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE, Esq., Settlement Officer, Muzaffarpur,
To—The Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith the annual settlement reports for the year ending 30th September 1896 of Muzaffarpur, Champaran, Saran, Gaya, Taluka Lahiri in Darbhanga, and the Narhan wards' estates in district Monghyr.

2. Each of the reports contains a complete review of the work done in the district to which it refers. It remains for me in the forwarding letter to refer briefly to some matters of a more general nature.

3. Shortly after assuming charge of the several settlements I drew up some rough working rules to regulate the powers and define the duties of the Assistant Settlement Officers in charge. These rules have introduced an uniformity of system, enable the Settlement Officer to keep a strict control over expenditure and appointments, ensure that all matters of importance must come to him, and have been found to work satisfactorily.

4. During the recess, in consultation with Messrs. Hughes, Kerr, and Gauntlett, I introduced into our existing rules alterations and improvements which the further progress of work or a greater experience suggested. In the attestation season 1895-96 the system of checking the records by the peshkars in camp was introduced, and with excellent results. This enabled us to modify the rules for check during the recess, and it has now been curtailed as far as is possible without a sacrifice of accuracy. We drew out also a set of rules to regulate case work. In order that the completion of the record and the further stages of our work may not be hampered, it is very necessary that all the case work of each village should be taken up at one and the same time and completely disposed of. If but a few cases are pending, the subsequent work in the village is delayed. These rules were drawn up mainly with the purpose that all the cases relating to one village should be made over to the case officer together, and should be completely disposed of before he proceeded to the next village, and thus frequent visits to a single village would be avoided. Rules were at the same time framed to introduce a certain amount of formality of procedure into case work under section 105, and without diminishing the progress of work, they have undoubtedly led to its being better done. We also revised the registers of the copying department with the object of better checking the payment for contract work and ensuring that work done once was not paid for more than once. An improved method of keeping accounts was also introduced, and all the office registers of each district have been brought into uniformity as far as circumstances admit. In June we drew up entirely new rules for computation and recovery of the costs of survey and settlement, completely revised the khanapuri rules, and introduced a few alterations into the attestation rules. The computation and recovery rules are based on the system introduced into Muzaffarpur by Mr. Lyon, with the addition of some improvements which a practical working of the system has suggested.

The khanapuri rules were at the beginning of last season partially revised to make them applicable to the use of the triplicate parchas. We completely overhauled them, and drew out a new set of instructions for Assistant Settlement Officers engaged on the inspection of khanapuri. The revision of the attestation rules was mainly confined to incorporating decisions and orders received during the year, and to prescribing a uniform set of registers for each district.

5. Our working rules, therefore, have all been brought up to date. It remains for me to notice a few of the more important questions in connection with our work that have come prominently to notice during the past year.

6. It is intended in the future operations in Saran and Darbhanga to follow thana boundaries as far as possible in drawing up khanapuri programmes. Since it has been decided that our records will be arranged thana by thana in the Collectorate, the advantages of adopting the thana as the basis of our work at the outset are too obvious to require comment. Along with the records we make over to the Collector a trace of all the villages of each thana on the scale of 2 inches to the mile. In the course of the preparation of these traces it was found in some thanas both in Muzaffarpur and Champaran that the number of villages as now demarcated could not be made to approximate even to the Boundary Commissioners' list, for the Survey Department without consulting it had treated as separate villages scattered portions of one and the same village. To obviate this difficulty in future proceedings I desire to ask the Survey Department to make a special reference to the list of villages given by the Boundary Commissioners in working up their records in recess. The amount of labour required to rectify mistakes of this kind during the later stages of the proceedings is enormous. Khanapuri Assistant Settlement Officers could do something in this direction,

but not very much; for it is certain that in our operations khanapuri inspection has been reduced to its lowest possible limits. As a rule not many more than half the villages are visited, and an enormous number of summary disputes remain undecided. Mr. Hughes, the Assistant Settlement Officer in charge, Muzaffarpur, considers that the staff of khanapuri officers should be increased, and no doubt summary disputes can be decided most conveniently at khanapuri, because an order at that stage entails less correction of the record. It is possibly also true that the truth is more easily ascertained on the spot and before the parties

And a great deal of inspection of value is done by the Assistant Superintendent of Survey.

16-11-96.

P. C. L.

at attestation, and thereby effect an economy which could be set off against the extra cost of the khanapuri staff.

7. During attestation in Muzaffarpur partitions of estates have given a great deal of trouble. When the Assistant Settlement Officer goes to attest the village he finds that partitions have been made which necessitate a revision of all the khanapuri. Separate rent-rolls have not been drawn out by the parties. If the *ijmali* rent is recorded, no one is satisfied, and there is no separate existing rent for each separate share, and each landlord claims more than his share. A difficulty of this kind led to the attestation of more than a dozen villages in Muzaffarpur being postponed until next year, and I fear we will have to cope with it both in Saran and Darbhanga. The new Partition Act, by providing that the Batwara Deputy Collector must partition the rent as well as the land, will remove one of the greatest abuses of the present law.

8. Complaints have been as frequent as ever of the inconvenience resulting from the decision of cases under section 104 before the hearing of objections under section 105. Obviously the proper time to fix a man's rent is after we have found out what his holding is, and until section 105 work is disposed of, we cannot be said to have an accurate record of it. This anomaly in our proceedings has hampered work particularly in Saran. For instance, a landlord claims that a raiyat holds an orchard on *bhaoli* rent. The raiyat claims that it is included in his cash-rent-paying holding. The landlord in suing under section 104 must, to be consistent, exclude the rent of the orchard from his claim. Subsequently the

This matter was referred to at length in my reports on Saran and Champaran last year. The difficulty has been provided for in the proposed Bill to amend the Tenancy Act.

16-11-96.

P. C. L.

landlord brings a case under section 105 for a declaration of the holding as *bhaoli* which perhaps is thrown out. In a case of this nature, where the claim for *bhaoli* is *bonâ fide*, the decision under section 104 must be reviewed and the whole case reopened, but the difficulty is very greatly enhanced when there has been no case originally brought under section 104; and on a representation which the Hathwa Raj presented, Mr. Colvin ordered that under the circumstances suits under section 104 must be accepted after the decision of objections under section 105. This is a very great concession, and one which the law does not contemplate, yet, I regret to say, that several groundless claims for *bhaoli* were preferred by the Raj under section 105 to serve as an excuse for instituting cases under section 104 against raiyats who had been passed over at the earlier stage of the proceedings. The manager has disowned all connection with such cases, and promised to order their withdrawal, but the position of the Settlement Department, even when treated honestly, is an extremely difficult one.

9. Another obstructive element that is always forcing itself on our notice is the filing of cases under section 106 just when the village is about to be finally published. It is, of course, true that we might finally publish the village either in whole or in part notwithstanding, but the decision of the case under section 106 might entail alterations necessitating the revision of nearly the whole record, and to proceed with final publication in the face of such a possibility is useless. Moreover, we must correct our record before proceeding to receive costs.

10. A large mass of statistics of area, status, rents, and crops have been compiled and appended to the reports for each of the districts. In reference to the present agricultural prospects in Bihar, a few remarks in this connection will not be out of place. The statistics for Saran refer to two thanas only—Mirganj and Gopalganj, but those for Muzaffarpur and Champaran have been compiled for the greater portion of those districts, and can be considered as representative. In Muzaffarpur and Champaran 41 per cent. of the area is twice cropped and in Saran 40 per cent., but it is probable that the Champaran figures are misleading, for the rabi grown on much of it is inconsiderable. Bhadoi is grown in Muzaffarpur on 25 per cent. of the total cropped area, in Champaran on 35 per cent., and in Sewan on 35 per cent. Aghani is grown in Muzaffarpur on 36 per cent., in Champaran on 26 per cent., and in Saran on 13 per cent. Rabi is grown on 39 per cent. in Muzaffarpur and on 39 per cent., in Champaran, and in Saran on 47 per cent. Less than 2 per cent. of Muzaffarpur is irrigated. The Champaran figures are incomplete. Twenty-one per cent. of thanas Mirganj and Gopalganj is irrigated. The Muzaffarpur figures are of doubtful accuracy, and it is quite certain that when driven to it by a failure of the rains, cultivators can irrigate much more of their land than they are usually in the habit of doing. It is for instance expected that in Saran even without rain most of the rabi will be sown down. Of the area attested in Muzaffarpur in 1895-96, 8,774 acres only are said to be irrigated. Of this, 32 per cent. is sown with rice, 29 per cent. with "other cereals and pulses," and 14 per cent. with "other food-crops." In Saran 2 per cent. only of rice is irrigated, and 62 per cent. of "other cereals

and pulses." The chief crops in Muzaffarpur are rice and indigo. The former absorbs 29 per cent. of the total cropped area, and the latter 23 per cent. In the two thanas of Saran under review, rice is grown on 31 per cent. of the area and other food-grains on about the same amount. Barley is grown on 15 per cent. In Champaran as much as 49 per cent. of the total cropped area is under rice. Assuming, then, that other conditions are equal and that each of the districts have obtained about six annas bhadoi, will obtain about 3 annas aghani, and no rabi, distress should become general in Muzaffarpur first, but should be felt most acutely in Saran, where so much of the land is sown with rabi, but in reality a large portion of the rabi in Saran is irrigated, and nearly all of it at a pinch is irrigable, and hence the cultivators of Saran could probably cope with a bad year better than those of the sister districts. In North Champaran too hill streams can be utilised for purposes of irrigation. At present scarcity is most imminent in Champaran, but that is in a particular tract of country dependent entirely on its rice crop, which has failed. Generalisation in a matter of this kind is of course of more interest than practical value. The crop statistics, however, which have been compiled for each thana should be of much assistance to the Collectors in detecting distress and analysing its causes.

The delay in submitting the annual reports, which I regret, was due to my absence on leave until the 7th October 1896.

APPENDIX IX (i).

MUZAFFARPUR ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER 1896.

Notification.—The whole of the district of Muzaffarpur having been brought within the scope of the provisions of Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act by Notifications No. 737T.R., dated 11th October 1894, and No. 5264L.R., dated 27th November 1894, published in the issues of the *Calcutta Gazette* dated 17th October and 28th November 1894 respectively, no fresh notification was issued during the year under report.

By Notification No. 5307L.R., dated 9th December 1895, the provisions of the Land Records Maintenance Act, III (B.C.) of 1895, were extended to the thana of Hajipur.

2. *Programme.*—The programme included an exceedingly heavy tale of work, which is set out as follows :—

- (1) The supervision of khanapuri and disposal of boundary disputes in an area of 445·09 square miles in the north of the district, the record-writing of which was in charge of a survey camp under Mr. C. S. Kraal.
- (2) The attestation of the records of 1,341 square miles of country khanapuried by Messrs. Hanby and Kraal during the field season of 1894-95.
- (3) The disposal of applications for the settlement of fair rents under section 104, Bengal Tenancy Act, and of objections under section 105 in the area attested in 1895-96, and of suits filed in the area attested in 1894-95 under section 106, Bengal Tenancy Act.
- (4) The completion of the records after the disposal of case-work.
- (5) The computation and collection of cost in an area of 150 square miles in thanas Hajipur and Mahuwa in the south of the district.
- (6) The preparation of mutation registers for the Collector.

This programme included every description of work in every corner of the district, and was heavier than that of any district in North Bihar at present under settlement.

3. *Staff and tours.*—His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor and the Hon'ble Mr. C. C. Stevens visited the office in July, and in the same month the Director of Land Records and Agriculture inspected it. I took charge from Mr. Lyon on the 15th February, and was on three months' special leave from the 7th July. Mr. Lyon spent 53 days on tour from November until February, and visited in this district all the camps, both khanapuri and attestation. I was out for 80 days from February until June—22 days in Muzaffarpur, 28 days in Champaran (four visits), 16 days in Siwan (three visits), 9 in Gaya (two visits) and 5 in Monghyr (one visit).

Mr. R. B. Hughes worked as Assistant Settlement Officer in charge during the year with the exception of two periods—the first of two months, during which he was in charge of attestation camp XIII, and the second of one month, during which he availed himself of privilege leave. Mr. Gauntlett from Saran acting for him in addition to his own duties. He was on tour 129 days. In February he inspected the khanapuri and attestation camps in the north of the district. He then went to Darbhanga to supervise the khanapuri of taluka Lahiri. In April he again visited the northern attestation camps. In August, during my absence on leave, he visited Gaya and Darbhanga, and in July and September inspected some of the recess camps.

Twenty-one Assistant Settlement Officers were employed in the district. The statement annexed gives details of their work. The difficulties of the year's work were very considerably enhanced by the ill health of some of the members of the staff. First Mr. Dwija Das Dutt, then Babu Bhabataran Chatterji, then Babu Siva Sankar Singh, and finally Babu Narendra Kumar Ghosh, fell ill and were compelled to take leave. The attestation programmes were very heavy, so that the hot weather was almost over before the camps came in and recess work began. Then, when a strong staff was required to cope with the heavy case-work, this series of mishaps occurred and threw progress back still further. Yet in spite of all, it will be seen from the annual returns that the arrears left at the close of the year are not heavy, and Mr. Hughes deserves the greatest credit for the spirit and energy, absolutely indefatigable and unselfish, with which he has encountered exceptional difficulties. Three of the Assistant Settlement Officers were in camp for over 300 days, viz., Babu Charu Chandra Kumar, Babu Chintaharan Chatterjee, and Babu Romesh Chandra Dutt, the former for 354 days.

4. *Record-writing.*—A survey camp under Mr. C. S. Kraal started work in the north of the district with its head-quarters at Sitamarhi on 1st November 1895, with the object of finishing the remaining 445·09 square miles of the district. This programme included the revision of 9 villages originally surveyed by Mr. Finucane in 1878, and again surveyed and khanapuried by Mr. Hanby in 1892-93, and also the revision of three villages surveyed by Mr. Finucane in 1879. This comparatively small area was completed by the end of April.

The area under khanapuri was divided into two circles, the first being placed in charge of Babu Har Sahai Lal, and the second in charge of Babu Probodh Chandra Chatterjee.

Owing to an unfortunate fall from his horse in December, Babu Probodh Chandra Chatterjee was unable to get about as much as the exigencies of the work required, and he was therefore transferred on recovery to attestation, being replaced by Mr. Roe, who, during his short period of employment on this work, managed to summarily dispose of 3,451 disputes and check 2,584 khasra plots. The total number of khasra plots tested by these officers employed on inspection work was 7,251 out of 590,130 khasrapuried, and 7,857 disputes relating to 9,390 plots were summarily decided. During the season disputes with regard to 22,001 plots were entered on the dispute lists, so that one plot in 26 was disputed. More of the disputes would certainly have been disposed of had the other khanapuri officer displayed Mr. Roe's energy and activity; but for the area under khanapuri the number of disputes is very large, and more than two officers could possibly expect to keep pace with.

5. In connection with the revision villages under khanapuri, the Assistant Superintendent of Survey has furnished the following statistics of transfer.

There were 8,612 plots in the three villages previously surveyed by Mr. Finucane, and there are now 10,647 plots. The principal cause of this increase is said to be the fact that ten blocks of *birt* land, surveyed in 19 fields in 1880, are now found to contain 1,272 fields. It seems probable that the survey being only undertaken on behalf of the Durbhanga Raj, these birts were purposely surveyed in blocks.

The total percentage of increase of fields is 23 per cent., but assuming that the *birt* lands were surveyed in blocks, and excluding these, the total increase of fields comes to somewhat more than 9 per cent.

The total number of transfers during the period of 15 years has been large, namely, 7,185. Just half that number were due to succession, about $\frac{1}{4}$ th to sale, and the rest to other causes. Increase in the number of plots has, I conclude, been included under "other causes." Deducting 2,035 on this account, the total number of plots in which transfers have taken place works out to 5,150, or about 60 per cent. on the original number of fields.

The number due to sale is unusually large, and it will be necessary to instruct the attesting officer this year to make special notes of the causes of this large number of transfers under this head.

Turning to the villages surveyed by Mr. Hanby in 1892-93, and revised during the last season, I find that the number of fields has increased by 577 or 5.75 per cent.

There have been during the three years 2,334 transfers of plots, or 23 per cent. on the total original number of plots. Of these, 107 are due to sale, 31 to abandonment, 868 to succession, and 1,265 to other causes.

It is a matter of surprise that as many as 23 per cent. of changes should take place within three years, and sales appear to be uncommon, accounting for less than eight per cent. of the total number of transfers. No doubt the influence of the Darbhanga Raj does much to prevent sales.

6. The Survey Department, in addition to its ordinary work, has prepared during the year maps of the Municipalities of Muzaffarpur, Lalganj, Hajipur, and Sitamarhi. They have made wall maps on the 16 inches to a mile scale of the whole area of each Municipality, and sheets of the urban areas of Muzaffarpur, Hajipur, and Sitamarhi on the scale of 64 inches to a mile, and of Lalganj of 32 inches to a mile. In each case a simple record of occupancy has been prepared. The cost will be defrayed by the Municipalities concerned, but I believe the accounts have not yet been adjusted.

7. The year's work, I think, points to a general improvement in the work of amins and Inspectors. Of course many were punished for bad work, and one amin was detected by Mr. Hughes in tearing up a *parcha* which the raiyat refused to pay him for. He was sentenced to four months' rigorous imprisonment and Rs. 50 fine.

8. *Boundary disputes.*—The number of these cases instituted during the year was 206. All of them, together with 24 cases pending from the previous year, were disposed of. Sixteen appeals were instituted. Twelve of them (including one pending from the preceding year) were decided, and in *all* the Assistant Settlement Officer's orders were upheld. The number of boundary disputes instituted since the beginning of the operation is 1,473. There are 4,498 villages in the district. The percentage of boundary disputes to the number of villages in the district is therefore rather more than 32 per cent.

The total number of appeals instituted since the commencement of the operation has been 86, out of which 81 have been decided. In 76 the Assistant Settlement Officer's orders were upheld, in 3 modified, and in 2 reversed.

9. *Attestation.*—The programme of attestation was enormous, no less than 1,664 villages with an area of 1,341 square miles. Twelve, however, of these, owing to recent partition, could not be attested, and three of them fell within the Sitamarhi urban municipal area, and their attestation was unnecessary. Hence there remained 1,649 villages covering 1,328 square miles, but in by no means a compact area, and they were completely attested during the year. To carry out the work 14 circles were formed, varying in size from 62 to 111 square miles. The average number of plots assigned to each Assistant Settlement Officer was $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, Babu Romesh Chandra Dutt heading the list with 182,638 in Camp XI. The field season commenced on the 15th October, and all the Assistant Settlement Officers, with the exception of two, whose records were not received until the beginning of November, started work on that day. Nearly all the Assistant Settlement Officers were out till the latter part of May. Camps I to V were in a fairly compact block south of Sitamarhi. Camp VI stretched over a long strip on the banks of the Gandak in pargana Ratti. The remaining camps were in the neighbourhood of Muzaffarpur town. Mr. Dwija Das Dutt

was entrusted with camp I, but owing to ill health and other reasons he made very little headway before he went on leave in January, and after the programmes of Camps II, III, and IV were completed, Babu Mon Mohan Chatterjee, Maulvi Ashfaq Hussein, and Babu Bhabataran Chatterjee, who were respectively in charge of them, were deputed to complete the work in Camp I. Camps III and IV were full of disputes. In some villages the rents in every khatian were disputed. Maulvi Ashfaq Hussein, who did very good work in Camp III, did not return to head-quarters until the 7th June, and was under canvas nearly eight months. Babu Bhabataran Chatterjee, who started well in Camp IV, began towards the close of the season to show signs of the heavy strain. In Camp V difficulties were mainly encountered in the villagas held by the Mohunt of Chorout, Chaudhari Mahadeo Prasad of Nanpur and the maliks of Sursand, all of whom are oppressive landlords on bad terms

The Mohunt is the worst landlord I have met with in Bihar, but the Nanpur Chaudhari is suffering from the effects of bad management in the past, and is not now, I think, oppressive.

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with their raiyats. It is reported that since attestation matters have settled down considerably in the Nanpur Chaudhari's villages. Babu Chintaharan Chatterjee in Camp VI began late owing to ill-health, and towards the end of the season Mr. Rowland Nagendra Lal Chandra had to be deputed on the completion of his own Camp (No. VIII) to assist him. Babu Chintaharan Chatterjee's progress in attestation was further hampered by the existence of several extremely difficult deara boundary cases, which he investigated with care and intelligence. The attestation of Camp VII, in which there were several villages owned by petty maliks, and consequently many disputes, was done by Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta with marked success. In the area included in Camp IX, the number of disputes met with at khanapuri were so large that the camp was made specially small because it was anticipated that the attestation would be extremely difficult, and Mr. S. S. Dey was entrusted with the work. He completed it, but it has since been discovered from his records that it was not so good as it should have been. Camp X contained mostly villages surveyed by Mr. Collin in 1885. The attestation was not difficult, and Babu Siva Sankar Singh made good progress until January, when he was called away to start the recovery of survey-settlement costs. The camp was eventually split up into 3—two portions being made over to Maulvi Syed Ali Ashraf and Babu Sarat Chandra Mukerjee who were imported from Champaran, the remainder to Mr. Dey on his completion of Camp IX. Camp XI (Babu Romesh Chandra Dutt) contained the largest number of plots and one of the most difficult villages, namely Padmaul. This village is only about $\frac{2}{3}$ ths of a square mile with 2,010 plots. It contains 81 pattis. Its attestation began with a large dispute as to how many pattis it did contain, and after that 29 per cent. of the plots were disputed. This one village took nearly a fortnight. Babu Romesh Chandra Dutt did his work well, but towards the end of the season Babu Charu Chandra Kumar had to be sent to assist him to complete the programme. The work of the remaining camps calls for no special mention. During the season nearly twenty-one lakhs of plots containing 423,301 holdings were attested. The total number of disputes in the villages attested as shown in the khanapuri registers was 54,873. The total number of disputes dealt with at khanapuri time was 12,899, thus leaving a balance of 41,974, which have been decided by the attestation officers in addition to disputes as to rent, no figures for which are forthcoming. Each officer therefore dealt with on the average 2,998 khasra disputes. In addition to this, 31,180 orders were entered on the order sheets. As every decision on a dispute and every order on the order sheet involves correction in at least two places in the record—the khasra and the corresponding khatian—some idea of the magnitude of the work may be formed. To each camp a competent amin was attached, who was in most cases kept constantly employed in correcting errors of survey and khanapuri. In spite of the difficulties met with, however, the year ends with the gratifying result of only 16 villages out of the modified programme of 1,649 villages uncompleted.

10. The officers employed in attestation worked well and loyally and extremely hard, with one or two notable exceptions. The circle notes which have been submitted contain much valuable and interesting information regarding crops, cultivation, public health, folklore and other matters. In Muzaffarpur there appears to exist some of that kind of genius which here is content to rest in obscurity, and in England would seek its laurels in Music Halls. At present topical songs are very popular, in which the refrain tells of the settlement, the amin invariably appearing as the villain. One quoted by Babu Mon Mohan Chatterjee, which he heard sung during the Holi festival, runs:—

“Khetwa men lagalwa tanaja parcha kaise mile.”

“A dispute has been put in for my field. How is a “parcha” to be obtained.”

Another, reproduced by Babu Bhabataran Chatterjee, is more optimistic and complimentary:—

“Ágyá Sarganá náp gyá pargana.

Ágyá amin begár gyá jamin.

Ágyá dipti sab bat nipti.”

“The Chief came, the pargana was measured.

The amin came, the land was spoiled.

The Deputy came, all ended happily.”

The circle notes submitted by Babu Bhabataran Chatterjee, Babu Charu Chandra Kumar, and Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta, are particularly worthy of mention.

11. *Recess work.*—The attestation camps were divided between six officers, viz., Babu Bhabataran Chatterjee, Babu Siva Sankar Singh, Babu Chintaharan Chatterjee, Babu Charu

Chandra Kumar, Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta, and Babu Romesh Chandra Dutt, but it was the end of June before case-work could be started.

The recess season commenced most disastrously, Babu Siva Sankar Singh, his successor, Babu Narendra Kumar Ghose, Babu Bhabataran Chatterjee, and subsequently Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta, becoming unfit for duty and going on leave one after the other.

Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur, Assistant Settlement Officer at head-quarters relieved Babu Bhabataran Chatterjee, and Mr. Hughes was then left with only Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta at head-quarters to carry on the very heavy office work, and at the same time to dispose of a number of cases of Camp X. Subsequently Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur was recalled by the special order of the Director of Land Records and Agriculture. Some cases under section 105 were also disposed of during the year by attestation officers and by several officers who were deputed to complete some of the remaining case-work after they had finished attestation.

12. *Settlement of fair rents.*—During the year 2,307 cases were filed, a larger number than was expected, but many of them, however, related to one raiyat only. Cases against the largest number of raiyats were filed by the Kanti Factory and the Tikari Court of Wards, which is joint-proprietor with the Shewhar Raja and the Shewhar Court of Wards in pargana Babra in Camp I. Nearly all the cases brought by factories were compromised. The number of cases brought by native landlords was 1,608—244 by the Darbhanga Raj, 150 by Rai Gudar Sahai of Bakra, 22 by the Tikari estate and its co-proprietors, and 36 by the Shewhar Rajas. All the cases brought by the Tikari and Shewhar estates included a large number of raiyats. European planters brought 617 cases, and 82 cases for reduction of rent were brought by raiyats.

At the end of the year 1,859 cases had been disposed of, leaving 466 pending disposal, chiefly in the area of Camp I, the records of which were not completed till late in the season. The total percentage of increase was 8·7 per cent., which is moderate. Almost the entire enhancement was given under section 52.

The total increase under section 30 was Rs. 13 only. The rulings of the High Court have hedged round the subject of “prevailing rate” with so many difficulties that landlords have almost ceased to apply under this section.

One appeal was pending from last year and three have been instituted and heard during the year. In one case the Special Judge upheld the decision of the Settlement Officer, which has since been reversed by the High Court. The records of a second case are now in appeal before the High Court. In the other two cases judgments of Babu Charu Chandra Kumar were upset on the ground that he had no jurisdiction to try the question whether lands held rent-free should be assessed to rent. One case which bears on the legal aspect of our proceedings under section 104 is deserving of notice. Acting on the ruling of the High Court in the case of Upadhyya Thakur *vs.* Parsidh Singh, the Tikari Ward's estate and its co-proprietors filed certain applications under section 104 against a number of tenants bearing an eight-anna stamp only. In accordance with instructions from the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, it was pointed out to the plaintiffs that the ruling related to memoranda of appeal only, and subsequently the necessary court fees, eight annas for each tenant, were filed. It remains to be seen now whether Appellate Courts will receive memoranda of appeal under section 106 bearing an eight-anna stamp only.

13. *Objections under section 105.*—The total number of objections under section 105, filed with regard to the villages attested this year, amount to 9,603. These, together with petitions remaining from the previous year and petitions filed during the year in villages attested in 1894-95, bring up their number to 11,825. Of these, 7,697 have been disposed of, leaving a balance of 4,128, a figure which we hope will be considerably reduced before this year's attestation commences. Of the cases decided, 809 were dealt with directly on the spot, and all of them within a mile or two of the village. The objections under section 105 were of the most miscellaneous description and related to every part of the record. In the course of the season Babu Charu Chandra Kumar kept notes on the nature of 387 objections decided by him. The majority were objections brought by landlords with regard to entries of rents, claims for land to be recorded as proprietor's private land came next, and claims of raiyats against landlords for possession of lands or trees follow.

The number of holdings attested during the year in the area referred to was 423,301. The number of objections to holdings attested was thus only 2·27 per cent.

On the whole, considering the difficulties with which we have had to contend during the recess, the results may, I think, be looked on as satisfactory. The officers employed on this work have to carry out their heavy programmes under exceedingly trying circumstances, living as they do in tents throughout the hot weather and rains. Yet I have had no complaints from them, and they have worked cheerfully and zealously throughout. It is to be hoped that, if the services of an officer can be retained up to Christmas, the arrears of case-work will be speedily cleared off.

14. *Cases under section 106.*—The total number of institutions for the year has been 685; the number remaining from the previous year was 226, giving a total of 911 for disposal. Out of these, 315 only were disposed of during the year. The majority were disposed of by Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur, who is also in direct charge of the head-quarters office. Little progress has been made, but for that Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur is in no way responsible. Mr. Hughes has drawn up an interesting note on the various departments of the office, which affords some conception of the magnitude of the task of supervising it. I regret that it is too long for insertion here, but he testifies to the valuable assistance Babu

Rai Krishna Bahadur has rendered him. I can endorse that testimony, and am satisfied that Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur only gained time to try the cases he succeeded in trying by working with the most unflagging zeal and energy. The number of cases filed so far has not been heavy. Up to February a uniform court-fee of Rs 10 per case was levied. Orders were, however, then received that *ad valorem* fees were to be required. In consequence, plaints under section 106 are now filed with so small fees as 6 annas. That the number of cases filed is not larger is in all probability mainly due to the fact that all, except the most persistent litigants, rest satisfied with a decision under section 105. Moreover the facilities now offered for further litigation are perhaps of too recent a date to be very well known.

15. *Draft publication*.—Out of the 1,649 villages entered in this year's programme, 1,460 have been draft published, besides 81 villages attested in previous years. The remainder have not been draft published, principally for the reason that cases under section 104, filed in them, had not been disposed of. To each attestation camp a canungo was attached, and the work was thus steadily pushed on. Dates for draft publication have already been fixed in many of the remaining villages, and the number remaining at the end of December will be inconsiderable. In addition to the villages attested this year, the records of all the villages attested in 1894-95, and remaining for draft publication at the end of September 1895, have since been draft published.

16. *Final publication*.—This work has been pressed on vigorously throughout the latter part of the year. Villages to the number of 1,161 have been finally published, as against 768 in the previous year. This number includes six villages of the last attestation season 1895-96, which have been finally published during September. I hope to finally publish many villages of the newly-attested area in future each month. The number of kanungos employed in final publication varies from 8 to 10. During the year alphabetical village registers have been prescribed, in which the numbers of all cases under all sections filed in each village are entered. No village is certified by the sarishtadar as ready for final publication until the cases filed with the record, and the numbers entered in the alphabetical register, have been checked. The consequence has been that while last year we had constant complaints that records were sent out to final publication without orders passed in cases having been corrected in them, hardly a single complaint has been received with regard to the 1,161 villages published during the present year. This successful result is very creditable to the Sarishtadar Jang Bahadur.

17. *Recovery of cost*.—Early in January 1896 instructions were received from the Director of Land Records and Agriculture to begin the recovery of cost of the finally published records at once.

Attestation Camp X was therefore broken up, and Babu Siva Sankar Singh recalled to head-quarters on 14th January 1896.

The forms to be used for computation had been under discussion for some time previously. Draft instructions had been drawn up by Mr. M. F. Gauntlett, which were adopted with some slight modifications. On 20th February Babu Siva Sankar Singh went out to start recovery, and computation continued to be carried on at head-quarters under the supervision of Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur. The work of the Computation Department consists in calculating the shares of the cost to be paid by each landlord and raiyat, in drawing up a schedule of dues for publication in the villages, and in writing counterfoil receipts. From time to time several improvements have been effected which experience has suggested, the chief one being the payment of all computers, except those for landlords, by contract. The work has been simplified in several ways, all with the result of reducing cost.

In Muzaffarpur the principal difficulty in computation arises from the large and complicated system of proprietary rights in land. In every village the computer of the proprietor's share has not only to calculate the share of cost of each estate, but that cost has to be split up amongst a large number of proprietors. At the same time there are constantly small parcels of land in which many of the estates have shares. The share of each estate has to be calculated in these "shamilat" parcels, as they are termed, and the proportionate amount assigned to it, after which the cost has to be divided among the various proprietors. The following case will serve to illustrate the complexity of the work. In village Waapur Bantu, which contains only 1,163 acres, there are 87 pattis or estates, held by 253 proprietors. In addition, there are 134 khewat entries of land in which several of these estates have shares. The total area of "shamilat" parcels is 22.12 acres, and to each malik has to be assigned the proportionate cost of his share.

The division of the "shamilat" area among the estates, the bringing together of the areas assigned to each estate from each shamilat parcel, and the subsequent distribution of the cost among the various proprietors, involves enormous labour. A computer of proprietor's shares cannot at present do more than 16 khewat entries per diem.

Up to date 1,400 villages with an area of 299,837.87 acres have been computed. The cost computed to be realizable on these villages amounts to Rs. 1,20,640-6-5.

The total demand for landlords at $3\frac{1}{2}$ annas is Rs. 74,589-6-5, and the total demand from occupiers at $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas is Rs. 46,051. Calculating on the given acreage, the landlord's share at $\frac{7}{8}$ of 8 annas and the raiyats at $\frac{1}{8}$ of 8 annas, the following figures are obtained:—

			Rs.	A.	P.
Landlords ...	...	...	64,964	9	0
Occupiers ...	...	...	46,849	11	0
Total	...	...	1,11,814	4	0

The difference therefore is—

			Rs.	A.	P.
Landlords	...	...	+9,624	13	5
Occupiers	...	...	— 798	11	0
Total	...	...	+8,826	2	5

The differences in landlords' and occupiers' shares are accounted for by the fact that proprietors have to pay full rates on non-occupancy holdings and uncultivated lands.

The difference of Rs. 8,826-2-5 in the total is due to calculations made on fractions of acres; for the sum payable by any holding, however small, is not less than 2½ annas, while, for fractions exceeding one acre, up to '49 is ignored, and '50 and upwards is treated as a whole acre. The percentage of total difference then comes to 7·8 per cent. Assuming 7 per cent. to represent the difference between the figures arrived at by a calculation on the gross acreage and the figure obtained by detailed computation, the results that may be expected for the whole district can be approximately ascertained.

Taking the area of the whole district as 3,050 square miles, the difference between the demand as computed and as worked out on the total area of the district will amount to Rs. 51,240. The cost of computing 299,837·87 acres has up to the present amounted to Rs. 4,743-11-7, giving a cost of about 3 pies per acre. The cost will probably be reduced; but taking 3 pies per acre, or Rs. 10 per square mile, as the cost of computation, it will be seen that the excess demand of Rs. 51,240 will more than cover the entire cost of computation, viz., Rs. 30,500.

The total cost realisable on 3,050 square miles at 8 annas an acre amounts to Rs. 9,76,000. Assuming that half a lakh will be realised in excess owing to our system of computation, and another half a lakh from court and process fees, the total sum realised on account of the costs of the survey-settlement will amount to Rs. 10,76,000. The estimated cost of the entire operations given in the five years' forecast was Rs. 11,62,790, and if this figure is correct, we shall end with a deficit of nearly a lakh in this district.

18. Babu Siva Sankar Singh commenced recovery work at Rajauli in the Hajipur thana on 20th February.

The procedure is simple, convenient centres are chosen, and notices are served in all the surrounding villages fixing days for their attendance; at the same time a schedule is sent to each village setting forth the amount due from every payee in it. When the Assistant Settlement Officer goes to the centre, he erects a bamboo enclosure and sits in the middle of it surrounded by his tahsildars, who collect the money, give the receipts and the certified copies of the khatians. At the close of each day they hand in their money and accounts to the cashier, who counts the money and deposits it in the treasure chest that night, and writes up his account next day.

Babu Siva Sankar Singh had collected in the thanas of Hajipur and Mahuwa, by the end of May, almost entirely without the adoption of coercive measures, Rs. 31,802-8-9 out of a demand of Rs. 36,504-10-11. He thus left a balance of Rs. 4,702-2-2 to be collected from head-quarters, and Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur, the Assistant Settlement Officer at head-quarters, was vested with powers under the Certificate Act for the purpose. The balance at the end of the year is Rs. 2,453-13-2, or rather more than 7 per cent. of the total demand. We have thus succeeded in collecting more than the 85 per cent. mentioned in my letter to Director of Land Records and Agriculture, No. 84B of 5th July 1896. The principal difficulty has been to obtain payments from the numerous petty maliks whose shares are often not more than a few annas. They show the same apathy in payment to us as they do in payment of Road and Public Workscesses in the Collectorate. On the other hand, no difficulty has been found in obtaining payment of the occupier's share, only Rs. 109-3-6 in Hajipur and Rs. 215-4 in Mahuwa being still outstanding. The smallness of the arrears afford a most striking proof of the popularity of the record. Other proofs are not wanting. The Subdivisional Magistrate of Hajipur has informed Mr. Hughes that the certified copies of the record which have been thus distributed are frequently filed before him, and Mr. Hughes has himself received several complaints from raiyats that, though the raiyats of neighbouring villages had obtained their khatians, they had not been so fortunate. Several enquiries have been made at head-quarters lately also, by proprietors and others, as to whether their certified copies were obtainable at head-quarters on payment. The total cost of the recovery establishment during Babu Siva Sankar Singh's tour was Rs. 3,067-11-9, the cost of computation was Rs. 2,122-6-6. The total expenditure, therefore, amounts to Rs. 5,790-6-3. The collections amount to Rs. 34,050-13-8. The cost of collection, therefore, is 15·24 per cent. This is too heavy, but by employing a

Certainly the cost in the past year is no fair test of the system introduced.

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recovery officer on smaller pay, and by other means, I am confident that we shall be able to reduce it very considerably

19. *Preparation of mutation registers.*—In December orders were received to prepare registers for the Registrars of Mutation who were to be appointed for the maintenance of the record. The work was immediately taken in hand. One thousand two hundred and eighty-two registers and field indexes, containing 719,575 plots, were prepared at a cost of Rs. 2,075-0-6. Subsequently, in August last, the Director of Land Records and Agriculture intimated in his No. 3995S, of 10th August 1896, that there was no intention at present

on the part of the authorities to extend the provisions of the Act beyond the thana of Hajipur. Five hundred and one registers have been bound and handed over, together with a trace of each village, to the Sub-Registrar at Hajipur. As soon as more of the 653 villages in thana Hajipur have been finally published, steps will be taken to prepare similar registers for them.

The Collector of the district reports that since the registers were sent to Hajipur 244 applications for registrations have been made. The experiment has not yet been tried for a sufficiently long period to merit further comment.

20. *Statistics of areas and rent-rates.*—I am now able to give area and rent-rate statements for all the thanas in Muzaffarpur with the exception of Shewhar. The total area covered by these 2,557 villages is 676,463·60 acres, or 1,057 square miles. Out of this area 96,788·80 acres, or 14·31 per cent., are held by proprietors, and 19,658·36 acres are cultivated by tenure-holders, or 2·90 per cent. The uncultivated area covers 75,816·89 acres, or 11·21 per cent. of the whole area, and Government holds 6,791·71 acres, or 1 per cent. in the shape of roads and railways. Rent-free holdings cover 11,055·28 acres, or 1·63 per cent. The remaining area is held by raiyats; raiyats holding at fixed rents or rates of rent cultivating 21,895·44 acres, or 3·17 per cent., of the total area; occupancy raiyats holding 395,256·63 acres on cash rent and 34,677·90 acres on produce rent, or 63·57 per cent. of the total area; non-occupancy raiyats 11,799·59 acres on cash rent, and 3,222·99 acres on produce rent, or 2·22 per cent. of the total area. The very large area found to be held by settled raiyats is a matter for satisfaction; and considering the large number of petty maliks in the district, it is not surprising to find that more than 14 per cent. of the total area is cultivated by proprietor.

Turning to the rates of rent, we find, as might be expected, that the rent of raiyats at fixed rates is lowest, viz., Rs. 3-8, including the rent of cultivated and uncultivated land. Next come occupancy raiyats with a rent rate of Rs. 4-3-2 for all lands held by them. Non-occupancy raiyats pay at the rate of Rs. 5-1-3, and under-raiyats a still higher rent of Rs. 5-3-11.

Among the different thanas Hajipur, with its large tracts of land suitable for the cultivation of garden produce (letting in some cases at more than Rs. 20 per bigha), comes out with by far the highest rate of rent for settled raiyats, Rs. 5-2-5;

These results are in accordance with my personal knowledge of these tracts.

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next follows Muzaffarpur thana with a rate of Rs. 4-6-7, and Mahuwa, which borders on Muzaffarpur, with a rent rate for settled raiyats of Rs. 4-5-5 per acre. Pupri thana in the north stands next, probably owing to the fact that large portions of that thana are held by proprietors who are well known for their exactions from the cultivators. With regard to under-raiyats, the large area held by them on produce rent is noticeable—4,338·62 acres out of a total of 10,013·04 acres, or more than 43 per cent.

21. *Statistics of area.*—With the exception of five villages for which the statistics are not available, I am now able to submit complete figures for the whole district, omitting the urban area of the four Municipalities.

The total area for which figures have been compiled covers 1,942,784 acres or 3,035 square miles. Of this area 27 per cent. or 810 square miles are uncultivated, and the remaining 2,225 square miles are cultivated. Of the uncultivated area 74 per cent., or 604 square miles, consists of house sites, water and other kind of waste which are not available for cultivation. The remaining 206 square miles consist of current fallow and old fallow, mango groves, etc. No more striking figures could have been compiled to show that extension of cultivation to any degree in Muzaffarpur is impossible.

In the cropped area rabi heads the list with an area of 1,217 square miles or 39 per cent. of the total cropped area. Aghani follows with 1,135 square miles or 36 per cent., and bhadoi is last with 788 square miles or 25 per cent. of the total cropped area. The percentage of area cropped twice (dofasli) to the nett cropped area is 41.

Mango groves cover 52 square miles or about 1½ per cent. of the whole district. Only 42 square miles of the district are irrigated, principally from wells. I regret that owing to the incompleteness of the old forms I am unable to give correct details of crops in the irrigated area. There are 4,260 masonry and 7,398 earthen wells in the district. In view of the recent orders of Government for the preparation of registers of wells and tanks in the districts, no doubt the information in this respect obtainable from our papers and maps will be useful.

22. *Crop statement.*—It will be seen that, with the exception of tea, every kind of crop mentioned in the printed headings to the statement is grown in the district, a few acres each of coffee and cinchona even being found. Among the crops cultivated, rice and indigo head the list each with an area of 892 and 709 square miles under cultivation. These areas represent 40 and 32 per cent. respectively of the total cropped area. It is remarkable how very large the stake is which the planting community has in the district. "Other food-grains" stand next with a cultivated area of 225,988·40 acres or 11 per cent. of the cultivated area, followed by maruwa (166,788·86 acres) and maize (129,813·23 acres).

Linseed and yams cover a very fairly large area, 45,107·14 acres and 38,886·25 acres respectively.

The large amount of potato cultivation is also noticeable. The cultivation is said to be very popular around Hajipur and Muzaffarpur. Coffee, 68 acres, is said to be cultivated in Muhammadan villages entirely for home consumption.

23. *Expenditure*.—No useful comments can be made on the statement of expenditure, owing to the fact that the figures given are for the last and first halves of two financial years. Expenditure during the year has been extremely heavy, owing to the large number of officers engaged on attestation and the long period for which they were employed.

The books of the Account Department were revised during the year.

Up to the end of the year the amount of Rs. 26,836-11 had been realised from the commencement of the operations in court-fees and Rs. 9,055-10 in process fees.

MISCELLANEOUS.

24. *Maps of congregated villages for thanas*.—During the year instructions have been received for the arrangement and binding of the records *thanawar*, and for this purpose thana maps on the 2"=1 mile scale for seven thanas have been prepared.

These maps are numbered serially from the north-west corner, a separate serial number being given to each block for which a separate record has been prepared by this department. This may or may not coincide with the old revenue survey village. It is a common thing in this district to find several blocks of one revenue survey mauza in different parts of a thana, sometimes even in different thanas. In some cases these blocks have been treated as separate villages, and in some cases as parts of one village by the Survey Party. Much difficulty is experienced in identifying the various parts, and the preparation of these thana maps has involved much labour.

Permission has been given for work in Darbhanga to be done *thanawar* from the commencement, and there can be no doubt that the thana affords a far more convenient block for our operation, than the pargana. Much inconvenience has been felt in Muzaffarpur and Champaran from the fact that the pargana and tappa were taken as the unit during the earlier stages of our operations, while for the concluding stages the thana is adopted as such. A great deal of cross-numbering has been necessitated thereby.

25. *Patwaris*.—In his No. 613S., dated 25th February 1896, the Director of Land Records and Agriculture called for a report of the nature of the duties of the patwaris in Bihar, the relation in which they stood to Government, and how far the rules laid down by Government for the guidance of patwaris were carried out.

In a further letter, No. 82T.S., dated 15th May 1896, a special report was called for as to the possibility of utilising patwaris for the maintenance of the record in the thanas of Hajipur in Muzaffarpur, and Bettiah in Champaran, to which Act III (B.C.) of 1895, the Land Records Maintenance Act, had been extended.

A report on the latter subject was submitted by Mr. R. B. Hughes, Assistant Settlement Officer in charge, in this office No. 109B. of 5th August 1896.

Reports have been received with regard to the patwari from several of the officers employed on attestation, and the result of their reports and of my own observation are given below.

It is very exceptional to find only one patwari in a village, and this is not surprising, considering that in the average there are about 15 landlords all collecting rent separately in every village in Muzaffarpur.

Furthermore many patwaris, especially where the landlords are indigo planters, have jurisdiction over several villages. Hence it is misleading to term the patwari a village official. As for his duties they are multifarious. In addition to keeping the accounts, he often has to collect the rents. He prepares road cess returns and gives information of holdings being abandoned and cultivation being extended. He is the local source of information for the landlord, and his information is, I regret to say, as likely to be wrong as right. His pay varies from 8 annas to Rs. 10 a month. In the majority of cases it is utterly inadequate, and it is supplemented by commissions taken from the raiyats when granted receipts or inducted into new holdings. The rules by which patwaris are supposed to be controlled are practically a dead-letter. The patwari, until the present settlement, was alone possessed of village papers. His power is great, his acts are quite uncontrolled, and his dishonesty, for the exercise of which he has exceptional facilities, is deplorable. One of the greatest blessings the present settlement will confer on landlord and raiyat alike is that it will clip the patwari's wings.

26. *Extension of the survey and settlement operations to South Bihar and the Bhagalpur Division*.—Paragraph 16 of the Government Resolution on the survey and settlement reports for the year 1894-95 dealt with the future extension of the survey and settlement operations to the rest of Bengal, and in consequence of the remarks therein made, a report was called for by the Director of Land Records and Agriculture in his 485S. of 14th February 1896.

A report dealing fully with the matter was submitted in this office No. 886 of 29th May 1896.

The conclusions come to by me were—

Mr. Stevenson-Moore's report on this subject was full and interesting, and his suggestions were in the main recommended by me to Government.

15-11-96.

P. C. LYON.

(1) that the consideration of the general question should be postponed to 1898;

(2) that with reference to the extension of the operation south of the Ganges, special enquiries should be set on foot with regard to the benefits of a survey and settlement in the tracts irrigated by the Sone Canals;

(3) that the operations should be extended to that portion of Monghyr lying to the north of the Ganges.

27. *Batwara Bill*.—A draft of the Bill which is to be placed before the Legislative Council was forwarded by the Director of Land Records and Agriculture for report. That report was submitted in this office No. 110B. of 13th August 1896.

Four statements were submitted—the first containing extracts from the village notes written by 14 different Assistant Settlement Officers at the time of attestation; the second a statement showing the rent rates obtaining in estates which had undergone *batwara*; the third was a comparative statement for estates surveyed *ijmali* in 1885 by Mr. Collin, and now revised after partitions had been given effect to; while the fourth showed for certain estates which are pending partition in the Muzaffarpur Batwara office, and the records of which had been prepared *ijmali* by us, comparative figures of areas held by proprietors and raiyats, and of raiyat's rent as entered in the landlord's *jamabandi* filed in the Batwara office, as found by the Deputy Collector's rate statement and as attested.

Commenting on these four statements, the conclusion was irresistible that batwaras are the cause of very considerable enhancements of rent, and of dispossession of raiyats of their lands to some extent. From the information derived from the village notes, it appears that after batwara enhancements varying from 2 annas in the rupee to more than double the former rates invariably take place. At the same time the rates in estates in which batwara had taken place were found to be 3 to 22 per cent. higher than the total rates for 50 villages taken at random in each thana.

28. *Comparative statistics of villages surveyed by Mr. Collin in 1885 and revised in 1895*.—During attestation time muharrirs were specially deputed to the attestation camps to compare the khatians of the 1885 settlement plot by plot with the revised khatians of 1885.

A form was prescribed by which each plot entered was "ticked" off after comparison, and the plots found in excess were then entered alone at the end. Four statements which are annexed were prepared from the figures thus compiled and submitted to the Director of Land Records with a report No. 402, dated 3rd August 1896.

Raiyats and landlords held 1,612 holdings in 1885 containing 6,771 plots. They now hold 1,696 holdings (increase 4.59 per cent.) with 8,507 plots (25.63 per cent.). Rents have increased slightly from Rs. 6,295-8-3 to Rs. 6,483-11, and the rate of rent from Rs. 3-4-4 to Rs. 3-6-5 or 3-6-4 per cent. Two villages in which batwaras have taken place—Akhtiyarpur and Deogaon—are principally responsible for the increase. From statement III it will be seen that out of 1,024 raiyats, the rents of 455 or 44.44 per cent. have been enhanced, the rents of 257 or 25.09 have been reduced, while the rents of 312 raiyats or 30.47 per cent. have remained stationary. Whilst rents, however, in the first case have increased by 24.2 per cent., the area held by the raiyats has increased by 14.2 per cent. only. On the other hand, in the case of those raiyats whose rents have been reduced, the percentage of decrease of area is 40.5, whilst the percentage of decrease of rent is 46.1. The area held by those raiyats whose rents have remained stationary has decreased to 1.5 per cent. It will be seen in statement I that the number of transfers reaches the very large total of 1,949, or more than one transfer for every holding.

Transfers by sale are few, and in view of the fact that the price per acre (Rs. 47-4-1) is higher than that worked out for the sale of raiyati lands recorded in 1,400 square miles of country attested this year (Rs. 42-1-2), I think it may be inferred that the fears of those persons who have all along asserted that the survey and settlement of North Bihar will lead to more numerous transfers of occupancy rights are groundless. On the contrary, it would appear that the value of those rights have risen, and that the raiyats are loath to part with them.

The subsidiary statement I, with regard to the nature of transfers under "other methods," is interesting when read with columns 18 to 23 of statement I as showing the large number of transfers for which the landlord is himself responsible. With a view to the maintenance of the record the results are important, for under the Act a proprietor is not bound to register mutations.

29. *Transfer of proprietary and occupancy rights*.—The figures of a statement for occupancy rights, which was submitted to Director of Land Records and Agriculture with this office No. 309, dated 9th July 1896, are annexed to this report. A similar statement with regard to the transfer of proprietary rights compiled from figures obtained by the attestation officers, which could not be worked up at that time, has subsequently been prepared and is now submitted. With regard to the transfer of occupancy rights, statistics have been prepared for 1,269 villages containing a total area of 652,507 acres, or about $\frac{2}{3}$ ths of a square mile each. Of the 8,083 transfers recorded, 1,172 (giving somewhat less than six transfers for every village) or 14.37 are due to sale, and 6,911 or 85.63 per cent. are due to mortgage. The number of transfers by sale is only .42 per cent. of the whole number of holdings, and the transfers by mortgage 3.91 per cent. of the number of holdings. Of the area transferred by sale, 55.28 per cent. relates to transfer of whole holdings. On the other hand, only 29.43 per cent. of the area transferred by mortgage relates to whole holdings. That the number of transfers and the area transferred should be so small is a matter for congratulation, but at the same time it must be remembered that the figures above do not show the whole indebtedness of the raiyats in the tract concerned, as in most cases mortgages with possession (the only mortgages noted in our record) have been recorded. The figures as to the class of men to whom transfers were made—89 to the lawyer class, 746 to the money-lending class, and 6,153 to raiyats—appear to be misleading, and it is probable that mahajans who have previously acquired land have been shown as raiyats

At the same time it must be remembered that in almost every village there is a raiyat of somewhat larger means than the rest who does a little money-lending business, and it is these men, and not the mahajans living at the bazars which are scattered over the country, who are only too glad to enter on land mortgaged to them for the purpose of cultivating it.

The figures for price paid per acre and sum advanced per acre are widely divergent. It is possible that the latter are inaccurate. At any rate, it is strange that whilst Rs. 42-1-2 is the price paid per acre, Rs. 61-3-2 works out as the average per acre advanced on mortgages.

Probably the lands differ in quality.
P. C. LYON.
15-11-96.

Transfer of proprietary right.—For the preparation of these statistics the Assistant Settlement Officers were ordered to select one typical village in each centre. In order to fill up column 6, the area proportionate to the share transferred has been entered.

Statistics for 194 villages in every portion of the district have been compiled; the villages comprising an area of 106,592·4 acres. In this area 607 transfers have taken place, by means of which an area of 7,762·81 acres, or 7·28 per cent. of the whole area, has been transferred. The percentage of transfers to estates and pattis in these villages is 21.

Assuming that each estate or patti is held by four proprietors (which is about the average number of proprietors in this district), the percentage of transfers to proprietors is a little over 5 per cent. Of the 607 transfers, 435 or 72 per cent. were landlords, 100 or 16 per cent. are raiyats, 59 or 10 per cent. are money-lenders, and 13 or 2 per cent. belong to the lawyer class.

It is satisfactory that raiyats are buying up land, and that mahajans are not making great headway in this respect.

The uniformity of the price paid is remarkable. The highest price paid is Rs. 85 per acre in Camp VII. This might have been expected, as Camp VII lay among the splendid lands of the south-eastern part of the district.

I understand that the rate paid for "milkiyat" in the district varies from 16 years' purchase to 20 years' purchase. Taking the average rate of rent per acre at Rs. 4, Rs. 73 per acre gives us 18 years' purchase.

30. *Deera Survey.*—As the result of a conference held between Mr. Lyon, Mr. Forbes, the Commissioner, and Mr. Hare, the Collector, early in September 1895, Government was addressed on the subject of the general question of the exclusion of the "fluctuating riverain tracts" running along the rivers Ganges and Gandak in the Patna Division from the notification extending the provision of Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act to the various districts in the north of Bihar, and in the meantime permission was requested to exclude from that notification certain estates which were either temporarily-settled or the property of Government in this district from the notification. Draft notifications to this effect are now under the consideration of Government with regard to the general question of the settlement of rents in these riverain tracts. There is no doubt that the provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Act are entirely inadequate. Moreover it would appear from the tenor of section 180 that the Bengal Tenancy Act was never meant to apply to such tracts. When a settlement of rents under section 104 is taking place, the presumption of section 113 that the existing rent of a raiyat in these tracts is "fair and equitable," far from being a proper or just presumption either for the landlord or raiyat, is as a rule, on the contrary, improper and unjust. For from their very nature these lands are liable to almost annual change from fluvial action, and lands which are covered with sand this year are frequently thick with crops the next, and *vice versa*.

As a matter of fact it is customary for the landlords in these tracts to make annual settlement with their raiyats. It is therefore obviously unjust to them and to the raiyats that rents should be settled which cannot be altered for 5 or 15 years. At the same time a survey under Act V of 1875 no doubt lays many feuds and boundary disputes to rest, and the presence of a survey party in the various districts should certainly be taken advantage of for this purpose without going to the useless expense of a cadastral survey and preparation of a record of rights, which will probably cease to be a record of the existing state of things in the following season.

31. *Training of young Civilians.*—Mr. L. O. Clarke and Mr. R. Sheepshanks were on tour in the khanapuri area during the early part of the year for 34 and 22 days respectively. During this period they were instructed in the methods of exterior and interior survey, khanapuri, and the decision of boundary and khasra disputes. Mr. Clarke also spent a short time on attestation. Mr. C. L. S. Russell, Subdivisional Officer of Sitamarhi, also accompanied Mr. Roe and Mr. Hughes during their tours, and had many opportunities in the course of his own tours of picking up the procedure followed by the department, of which he took advantage.

32. *General.*—It remains to say a few words in conclusion on the merits of officers. Owing to the concentration of the settlements of North Bihar and Gaya under one head, the monthly and annual returns, reports common to all the districts and circular orders pass through the Muzaffarpur English office. The head-clerk's work has been more than doubled, and he has done it well and conscientiously. The sharishtadar and the record-keeper have also worked well. Of the Assistant Settlement Officers, Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur deserves special mention. He has been of great assistance to Mr. Hughes in bringing the office to its present state of efficiency. Babu Siva Sankar Singh conducted the recovery work with good tact and judgment. Of the attestation officers, Babus Bhupendra Nath Gupta, Romesh Chandra Dutt, Chintaharan Chatterjee, Charu Chunder Kumar and Nand

Kishore Lall deserve special mention. Mr. Hughes, in addition to his own duties, was also in charge of Gaya during my absence on three months' leave. He has also had miscellaneous work in connection with the Narhan settlement and with the operations which it is proposed to commence in Darbhanga in December. In Muzaffarpur his duties were extremely heavy, and he performed them with the most untiring zeal and energy. He has very great insight into the details of settlement, and a personal knowledge of the merits of the large staff of his subordinates, which have largely contributed to the settlement work of this district being in its present high state of efficiency. He spares himself no pains to detect errors and to rectify them, and to bring the record into the highest possible condition of accuracy, and his services throughout have been most invaluable.

Return of Khanapuri Work for the year ending 30th September 1896.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER EMPLOYED.	NAME OF CIRCLE.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH KHANAPURI WORK WAS COMPLETED.				Number of villages of which Khanapuri is going on but is incomplete.	Number of villages inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of amins inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of plots of which the khasra entries were tested during the year.	REMARKS.
				Up to end of the previous year.		During the year.						
				Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Mr. F. Roe	Sitamarhi ...	439	445.09	4,061	2,609.72	439	445.09	...	147 300 2	137 300 2	2,584 4,647 20	3,451 disputed entries settled. ditto. ditto.
Babu Har Sahai Lal												
„ Probodh Chandra Chatterjee.												
Total ...	.....	439	445.09	4,061	2,609.72	439	445.09	...	449	439	7,251	7,857

N.B.—The figure shown in column 6 has been extracted from the annual report on the survey operations in Muzaffarpur for 1894-95.

Return of Boundary Disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act for the year ending 30th September 1896.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF.			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted.	Decided.	Number of cases in which decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1. P. C. Lyon, Esq., C.S.	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. P. R. Roe, Esq., C.S.	...	...	...	...	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. R. W. Hughes, Esq., C.S.	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Babu Rhabatran Chatterjee	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. „ Charu Chandra Kumar	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. „ Probodh Chandra Chatterjee	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. „ Bhupendra Nath Gupta	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. „ Rai Krishna Bahadur	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Maulvi Ashfaq Hussein	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Babu Chintaharan Chatterjee	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Mr. S. S. Day	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. Babu Romesh Chandra Dutt	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. „ Mon Mohan Chatterjee... ..	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. „ Har Sahai Lal	...	...	...	...	126	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Inter-district boundary disputes decided in Motihari.	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	1,267	206	1,473	1,243	230	1,473	Nil	86	81	76	3 (1 by compromise).	2	

Return of Attestation Work, including final publication of Records.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of Circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	Number of villages for which records have been received from the Survey Department.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.				NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT PUBLISHED		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED		
					Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Mr. Dwija Das Dutt ...	Camp I	49							46	51.90	12,969	59,669					
Babu Mon Mohan Chatterjee ...	IA	8							8	7.28	2,310	10,820					
Maulvi Ashfaq Hussein ...	IB	24	102.50						23	15.49	4,331	20,033					
Babu Bhabataran Chatterjee ...	IC	36							36	26.99	7,751	38,595					
Babu Mon Mohan Chatterjee ...	II	43	92.35						92	91.35	30,466	135,361					
Maulvi Ashfaq Hussein ...	III	105	103.93						104	102.43	35,994	139,618					
Babu Bhabataran Chatterjee ...	IV	91	99.20						91	99.20	34,469	142,486					
Charu Chandra Kumar.	V	89	98.64						89	98.64	26,970	142,772					
Chintaharan Chatterjee.	VI	112							111	67.49	29,984	123,472					
Mr. Rowland Negendra Lal Chandra.	VIA	28	83.64						27	15.65	8,789	28,733					
Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta.	VII	113	105.13						109	102.61	35,082	162,181					
Mr. Rowland Negendra Lal Chandra.	VIII	137	87.36						137	86.86	36,351	131,556					
Mr. Sorab S. Day ...	IX	69	61.99						69	61.99	28,866	100,473					
Babu Siva Sankar Singh ...	X	83							83	36.95	17,479	73,159					
Mr. Sorab S. Day ...	XA	22							20	10.18	7,659	24,999					
Babu Sarat Chandra Mukharjee.	XB	29	91.25						29	24.50	7,705	36,651					
Maulvi Syed Ali Ashraf ...	XC	35							35	18.62	4,772	30,279					
Babu Ramesh Chandra Dutt.	XI	125	92.26						124	77.38	37,719	163,740					
Charu Chandra Kumar.	XIA	23							22	13.64	4,728	18,592					
Band Kishore Lal ...	XII	127	95.72						127	95.72	32,720	165,337					
E. B. Hughes, Esq. and Babu Probodh Chandra Chatterjee.	XIII	122	103.64						122	103.64	26,434	161,951					
Babu Mahan Lal Chatterjee.	XIV	129	110.92						129	110.92	24,676	171,443					
Total ...		1,649	1,328.59	1,649	2,393	1,188.87	464,872	1,737,605	1,633	1,319.43	458,038	2,083,026	2,272	1,541	763	1,161	

Return of cases under section 104 of the Tenancy Act for Settlement of fair rents for the year ending September 1896.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Area of circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF CASES INSTITUTED			NUMBER OF CASES DISPOSED OF			NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED.			Former rental of tenants included in column 12.	New rental settled for tenants in column 12.	NUMBER OF DECISIONS APPEALED AGAINST TO SPECIAL JUDGE.			NUMBER OF APPEALS DECIDED.			NUMBER OF DECISIONS OF REVENUE OFFICER AS IN COLUMN 20—			REMARKS.
			To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.			To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Previous year's figures	...	...	636	...	...	618	...	618	5,632	...	5,632	51,492	55,784	...	14	...	13	...	...	11	2	...	
1. E. B. Hughes, Esq.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	224	224	4,305	4,641	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
2. Babu Bhabataran Chatterji.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	113	...	113	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
3. Babu Charu Ch. Kumar.	...	...	...	...	...	...	198	198	...	1,218	1,218	4,774	5,276	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
4. Mr. D. Dutta	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
5. Babu Nand Kishore Lal.	...	...	...	...	...	...	473	473	...	473	473	793	837	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
6. Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta.	...	...	...	...	...	...	70	70	...	638	638	5,286	5,633	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
7. Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur.	...	...	...	...	...	...	211	211	...	339	339	2,771	3,042	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
8. Babu Chinta Haran Chatterjee.	...	...	...	...	...	...	230	230	...	328	328	2,894	2,928	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
9. Babu Ramesh Ch. Dutta.	...	...	...	...	...	...	561	561	...	620	620	8,438	9,431	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Babu Siva Sanker Singh.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	2	15	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Total	...	...	636	2,307	2,943	618	1,859	2,477	5,632	3,862	9,494	80,768	87,010	...	14	317	13	4	17	11	2	4	
MISCELLANEOUS.																							
Babu Charu Chunder Kumar.	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	1	...	39	39	...	489	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
J. E. Phillimore, Esq.	...	...	29	...	29	14	...	14	595	...	595	1,487	2,847	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Cases tried under section 40. These are Government villages in the diara of which settlement of revenue are being made by Collectors under Regulation VII.																							

Percentage Statement of cases under section 104.

NAME OF OFFICER.	Former rent.	Present rent.	SECTION 52.				SECTION 30.		Total increase.	Total percentage increase.	REMARKS.
			Increase under section 52.	Percentage of increase column 5.	Decrease, section 52.	Percentage of decrease, column 30.	Increase, section 30.	Percentage of increase, column 9.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
All officers	Rs. 29,276	Rs. 31,826	Rs. 2,538	8.6	1	.003	13	.04	Rs. 2,550	8.7	

Return of Objections under section 105, for the year ending September 1896.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Nature of case.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF.			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
		Up to the end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
											Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Decided during the year.														
R. B. Hughes, Esq. ... 268	(1) Objections heard and considered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act.	11,653	10,817	22,470	10,046	7,697	18,342	4,123	...	...	...	...	...	
Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur ... 597														
" Bhupendra N. Gupta ... 689														
" Charu Ch. Kumar ... 1,104														
Mr. D. Datta ... 7														
Babu Chintaharan Chatterjee ... 1,524														
Mr. Rowland N. L. Chandra ... 5														
Babu Nand Kishore Lal ... 1,083														
" Man Mohan Chatterjee ... 107														
" Romesh Ch. Dutt ... 1,146														
" Siva Sankar Singh ... 153														
" Bhabataran Chatterjee ... 940														
" Narendra Kumar Ghose ... 74														
7,697														
Execution cases														
R. B. Hughes, Esq. ...	(1) Execution cases (2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	...	27	27	...	10	10	17	...	...	...	...	...	
Babu Charu Ch. Kumar ...														
" Rai Krishna Bahadur ...														
" Bhupendra Nath Gupta ...														
" Siva Sankar Singh ...														
Total ...	2,123	685	2,808	1,897	315	2,212	596	208	181	118	16 (14 by compromise.)	47		

Financial Statement from October 1895 to September 1896.

MAIN SUB HEADS OF BUDGET.		Expenditure in previous year (against each sub-head).	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	
1. Pay and special allowance of— Settlement Officer ... Assistant Settlement Officers ...	Rs. A. P. 26,955 13 5 30,198 10 11	Rs. A. P. 14,705 8 5 48,640 11 4		
2. Fixed establishment ...	2,609 0 9	2,783 8 0		
3. Temporary establishment ...	20,200 2 3	42,416 6 7		
4. Contract and job work ...	26,952 0 0	39,791 13 4		
5. Travelling allowance— Of officers ... Of establishment ...	10,075 3 6 203 9 6	14,207 8 0 443 15 6		
6. Supplies and services— Furnishings ... Tents ... Petty construction ... " repairs ...	733 11 7 2,132 13 0	2,058 6 10 1,402 14 9		
7. Contingencies— Hot-weather charges ... Office rent ... Service telegrams ... " postage charges ... &c., &c.,	238 5 8 1,901 16 8 225 0 0 555 6 0 6,910 3 5	411 2 5 2,400 0 0 210 9 0 748 6 9 9,836 6 1		
	1,28,342 4 8	1,80,057 0 0		

Return of recovery of cost for the year ending September 1896.

	Total number of villages in hand.	DEMAND.		COLLECTION.								BALANCE.			REMARKS.
		Landlord's share.	Occupier's share.	Total.	LANDLORD'S SHARE.			OCCUPIER'S SHARE.			Grand total collected.	From land- lord.	From occupier.	Total.	
					By talukdar and office.	By certificate.	Total.	By talukdar and office.	By certifi- cate.	Total.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
During the year.	537	Rs. A. P. 21,442 14 5	Rs. A. P. 16,081 12 6	Rs. A. P. 36,604 10 11	Rs. A. P. 17,765 8 4	Rs. A. P. 1,548 0 4	Rs. A. P. 19,313 8 8	Rs. A. P. 14,633 11 6	Rs. A. P. 83 9 6	Rs. A. P. 14,737 5 0	Rs. A. P. 34,030 13 8	Rs. A. P. 2,129 5 8	Rs. A. P. 324 7 6	Rs. A. P. 2,453 13 2	

Abstract of Khatians.

THANAS.	Number of villages.	PROPRIETOR'S ZIRAT.				HELD BY PROPRIETORS, BUT NOT ZIRAT.				IN CULTIVATING POSSESSION OF TENURE-HOLDER.			
		Number of holdings.	Area of cultivated land.	Area of uncultivated land.	Total area.	Number of holdings.	Area of cultivated land.	Area of uncultivated land.	Total area.	Number of holdings.	Area of cultivated land.	Area of uncultivated land.	Total area.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
			A. D.	A. D.	A. D.		A. D.	A. D.	A. D.		A. D.	A. D.	A. D.
Hajipur	605	2,641	5,044 31	497 88	5,542 19	2,169	6,956 84	467 80	7,424 64	346	940 0	116 78	1,056 78
Mahua	604	2,441	9,101 6	829 78	9,930 82	3,654	9,796 9	1,084 68	10,881 77	1,784	6,705 74	348 85	7,054 59
Lalganj	213	982	2,578 19	290 55	2,868 74	1,109	2,429 37	18 97	2,618 34	284	1,288 46	86 74	1,375 20
Katra	154	704	5,414 41	362 27	5,776 68	2,604	10,953 48	913 15	11,866 63	153	944 48	29 89	974 37
Muzaffarpur	451	1,793	7,829 21	1,028 22	8,857 63	3,700	12,923 80	1,454 6	14,376 86	798	5,540 6	337 35	5,877 41
Paru	376	874	2,975 35	289 48	3,264 78	1,122	4,330 95	540 42	4,871 37	593	2,456 77	245 81	2,702 58
Belsand	98	347	2,436 49	72 48	2,508 97	951	4,246 62	368 19	4,615 81	119	331 65	8 53	340 18
Sitamarhi	18	2	35 18	6 32	41 50	206	1,326 23	92 31	1,418 54	16	172 34	5 50	177 84
Pupri	39	...	...	...	...	273	1,689 2	204 52	1,893 54	21	95 8	4 38	99 41
Total	2,557	9,787	53,444 20	3,877 11	56,921 31	15,788	54,655 40	5,312 10	59,967 50	3,914	18,474 53	1,183 83	19,658 36

THANAS.	RAIYATS AT FIXED RENTS OR RATES.								SETTLED OR OCCUPANCY RAIYATS.							
	Number of holdings.	Area of cultivated land.	Area of uncultivated land.	Total area.	Total rent.	Average rate per cultivated acre.	Average rate per acre of total area.	Number of holdings.	Area of cultivated land.	Area of uncultivated land.	Total area.	Area of produce rent.	Total rent.	Average rate per cultivated acre.	Average rate per acre of total area.	
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
		A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Hajipur	7,630	10,767 22	1,594 64	12,361 86	50,190 4 3	4 10 0	4 0 11	5,881	60,126 32	6,115 55	66,241 87	9,039 24	3,41,891 11	6 5 10	3 5 2 5	
Mahua	1,710	3,393 31	492 88	3,786 49	10,806 511	3 3 4	2 13 8	75,062	84,792 34	6,420 52	91,212 86	11,508 87	3,95,855 4	4 6 10	3 4 5 5	
Lalganj	486	1,123 80	176 0	1,299 80	4,252 4 7	3 12 7	3 4 4	24,421	25,995 57	2,896 2	28,891 59	3,233 24	1,25,407 5	1 4 10	3 4 3 1	
Katra	86	240 8	25 2	265 10	897 12 3	3 11 0	3 6 2	25,863	34,403 81	3,416 20	37,820 1	2,194 8	1,29,004 0	1 11 3	12 5 3 11	
Muzaffarpur	185	541 84	113 30	654 64	1,748 7 9	3 3 8	2 10 8	54,983	68,491 22	5,658 38	74,149 60	4,693 12	3,27,423 6	1 11 4	12 6 4 6 7	
Paru	356	1,560 83	250 40	1,811 23	4,171 1 0	2 10 9	2 4 10	30,289	63,502 7	4,196 22	67,698 29	3,820 83	1,94,494 10	4 3 10	13 5 11	
Belsand	103	256 4	49 26	304 30	990 8 3	3 7 3	3 4 0	12,757	22,719 80	1,346 31	24,066 15	730 71	88,255 15	1 3 14	13 10 8	
Sitamarhi	308	853 63	59 39	913 2	2,974 4 0	3 8 1	3 4 5	2,173	3,696 46	275 26	3,971 72	132 66	13,527 15	0 3 10	7 3 6 5	
Pupri	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,348	9,371 60	832 80	10,204 54	817 15	43,004 9	9 4 9	5 4 3 5	
Total	10,844	18,705 55	2,689 69	21,395 44	76,031 0 4	4 1 0	3 8 10	245,679	364,099 25	31,157 38	395,256 63	34,677 90	16,59,964 15	1 4 8 11	4 8 2	

THANAS.	NON-OCCUPANCY RAIYATS.								RENT-FREE HOLDERS.			
	Number of holdings.	Area of cultivated land.	Area of uncultivated land.	Total area.	Area on produce rent.	Total rent.	Average rate per cultivated acre.	Average rate per acre of total area.	Number of holdings.	Area of cultivated land.	Area of uncultivated land.	Total area.
	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41
		A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		A. D.	A. D.	A. D.
Hajipur	4,950	4,461 20	288 92	4,750 12	2,333 59	24,684 1 6	5 8 6	5 3 1	2,001	1,011 18	246 55	1,257 73
Mahua	2,548	2,461 62	70 61	2,537 23	220 70	14,660 4 8	5 15 1	5 12 5	2,963	1,659 95	376 7	2,036 2
Lalganj	840	527 93	29 67	557 60	74 46	2,775 3 3	5 2 7	4 14 2	1,494	969 26	118 48	1,087 74
Katra	457	323 17	23 55	346 72	116 39	1,436 1 3	4 5 2	4 0 9	905	740 41	82 33	822 76
Muzaffarpur	2,824	2,171 0	79 36	2,250 36	2,250 36	11,432 0 1	5 4 4	5 1 5	2,479	2,082 34	367 2	2,449 36
Paru	834	1,176 49	53 71	1,230 20	173 75	4,437 12 0	3 12 4	3 10 8	2,184	2,005 19	335 46	2,340 65
Belsand	71	105 46	10 70	115 16	14 37	418 14 2	4 0 9	3 10 9	593	625 11	61 12	686 23
Sitamarhi	7	9 88	5 55	15 43	0 8	60 2 9	6 1 5	3 14 4	72	53 53	4 37	57 90
Pupri	12	10 76	...	10 77	...	53 1 9	4 14 11	4 14 10	271	210 79	16 10	226 89
Total	12,293	11,259 51	540 68	11,799 59	3,222 99	59,927 9 5	5 5 1	5 1 3	12,663	9,357 79	1,697 49	11,055 28

THANAS.	UNOCCUPIED.				UNDER-RAIYATS.								REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Total area.	Total area.	Total area.	Number of holdings.	Area of cultivated land.	Area of uncultivated land.	Total area.	Area on produce rent.	Existing rent.	Average rate per cultivated acre.	Average rate per acre of total area.	
	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54
		A. D.	A. D.	A. D.		A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Hajipur	2,893	28,114 61	1,088 89	139,231 82	6,921	1,083 77	123 50	1,207 27	215 31	6,315 1 6	5 12 3	5 3 8	80,611
Mahua	3,463	13,160 62	894 91	153,157 75	5,558	1,371 63	48 77	1,420 40	1,061 7	9,129 12 6	6 10 5	6 6 10	90,486
Lalganj	1,120	4,045 87	422 26	46,573 84	2,142	645 80	27 83	573 63	609 71	2,936 14 2	5 0 0	5 1 11	32,578
Katra	914	5,825 81	297 14	64,313 69	1,227	252 46	6 74	259 20	529 94	1,128 3 8	4 7 6	4 5 7	31,797
Muzaffarpur	2,191	10,378 86	1,410 80	125,368 99	3,325	1,204 74	66 5	1,270 79	88 66	6,563 14 8	5 7 2	5 2 7	71,850
Paru	292	10,175 29	2,403 44	90,538 41	2,271	656 66	53 97	710 65	591 88	2,761 6 7	4 3 3	3 14 2	41,894
Belsand	440	2,610 44	127 28	36,175 60	442	72 59	3 5 32	77 91	233 86	301 8 0	4 2 5	3 13 11	16,571
Sitamarhi	114	1,480 86	46 90	7,376 45	279	125 72	2 72	129 19	154 54	533 3 0	4 4 0	4 1 8	2,895
Pupri	369	1,024 63	100 9	13,847 2	189	23 68	2 72	25 40	63 65	116 12 0	5 2 4	5 9 6	6,204
Total	11,892	75,816 89	6,791 71	876,463 60	22,244	5,336 05	338 37	5,674 42	4,333 62	29,788 11 11	5 9 3	5 3 11	375,886

Crop Statement.

NUMBER OF VILLAGES.	CEREALS AND PULSE.										OILSEEDS.					SUGAR.		FIBRES.						
	Rice.	Wheat.	Barley.	Jowar (millet).	Bajra (millet).	Mandua.	Maize.	Gram.	Barley and vetches.	Wheat and barley mixed.	Other food grains includ- ing pulses.	Linseed.	Til or linili.	Mustard.	Others.	Condiments and spices.		SUGAR.		Cotton.	Jute.	Hemp.	Others.	
																Sugarcane.	Others.							
A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.
1894-95 ... 2,162	196,408 15	27,306 83	123,337 83	5,319 90	241 54	16,463 46	79,473 74	15,031 25	9,083 51	1,086 20	141,748 17	10,708 92	483 16	3,604 61	1,569 56	751 18	5,004 18	174 16	4,234 28	223 59	383 77	1,150 71	471 38	A. D.
1895-96 ... 2,335	374,687 6	19,189 37	5,874 88	284 85	1,769 83	150,325 40	50,359 40	13,237 48	7,501 98	27,283 23	84,240 23	34,398 22	6,994 57	1,179 24	737 90	2,343 89	2,268 26	751 86	243 32	98 14	74 17	457 94	1,622 09	
Total ... 4,497	571,095 21	46,496 30	129,212 31	5,604 75	2,010 67	166,788 86	139,833 23	27,268 73	17,185 49	28,374 51	225,988 40	45,107 14	7,487 73	4,783 75	2,307 49	3,095 07	7,272 44	926 02	4,482 60	621 73	457 94	1,622 09		

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NUMBER OF VILLAGES.	DRUGS AND NARCOTICS.										MISCELLANEOUS CROPS.				Total.		Area cropped more than once.		(31-32) Net area cropped.		REMARKS.	
	Dyes.	Others.		Opium.	Coffee.	Tea.	Tobacco.	Cinchona.	Indian hemp.	Others.	Podder crops.	Others.	Food.	Non-food.								
1894-95 ..	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	
1895-96 ..	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	
Total ...	4,497	454,114 64	190 20	7,054 24	68 14	...	21,995 84	5 75	31 85	636 64	5,810 78	367 36	3,675 06	12,708 59	33,896 24	11,526 77	24,292 21	2,010,247 69	155,917 96	1,424,329 75		

Comparative Statement of 13 villages attested in 1885 and also in 1895.

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Subsidiary Statement showing nature of transfers under "other methods" in Statement I.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12																	
Serial number.	Name of village.	MALIK AND THIKADAR OBTAINED FROM RAIYATS.			MALIK OBTAINED FROM BATWARA.			ABANDONED OR RELIN-QUISHED BY RAIYAT AND TAKEN BY MALIK.			PRIVATE PARTITION AMONG MALIKS.			PARTITION AND EXCHANGE AMONG RAIYATS.			GIFT.			FROM MALIK TO THIKADAR.			MISCELLANEOUS AND UNSPECIFIED.			TOTAL.		
		Number.	Plots.	Area.	Number.	Plots.	Area.	Number.	Plots.	Area.	Number.	Plots.	Area.	Number.	Plots.	Area.	Number.	Plots.	Area.	Number.	Plots.	Area.	Number.	Plots.	Area.	Number.	Plots.	Area.
1	Manpura	7	8	B. K. D. 2 17 19			B. K. D. 22 18 13			B. K. D. 0 11 4			B. K. D. 15 7 15			B. K. D. 1 11 3			B. K. D. 4 8 13			B. K. D. 0 13 12			B. K. D. 0 13 6			B. K. D. 3 11 11
2	Rampur Uda	14	55	15 6 14	15	64	22 18 13	1	1	0 11 4			0 7 8														1 9 10	
3	Akhtarpur Mar- wan.	19	33	16 10 13				21	50																		38 3 12	
4	Rampur Kashi	19	33	16 10 13				21	50																		31 18 8	
5	Rampur Labari	5	6	4 12 5				1	1																		4 19 13	
6	Deogan	61	75	15 4 12	233	319	43 15 14																				66 11 9	
7	Mokhan urf Chuck Harun.	4	12	5 5 13				2	4																		13 13 19	
8	Barakaur																										4 8 13	
9	Sirsa Khurd	19	53	10 6 16																							16 6 16	
10	Kerwan Bagho- ram.																										19 62	
11	Sirsa Buzrug																										10 8 10	
12	Silwat Rasdeo																										35 9 8	
	Total	129	241	76 4 12	248	383	71 12 12	91	182	43 10 13	106	156	56 0 15	39	93	14 7 16	3	11	3 8 10	1	1	0 13 12	4	11	5 13 3	631	1,080	271 13 13

REMARKS.

STATEMENT II.

Showing the holdings and areas held by raiyats and maliks in 1885 and 1895.

Serial number.	Names of villages.	Total number of holdings in 1885.	Total area held by raiyats in 1885.	Total rent paid by raiyats in 1885.	Total number of holdings in 1895.	Total area held by raiyats in 1895.	Total rent paid by raiyats in 1895.	Total number of holdings held by malik in 1885.	Total area held by malik in 1885.	Total number of holdings held by malik in 1895.	Total area held by malik in 1895.	Incidence of rent per acre in 1885.	Incidence of rent per acre in 1895.	INCREASE OR DECREASE PER RUPEE.		REMARKS.
														Plus.	Minus.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1	Manpura ..	102	B. K. D. 324 4 6 309.21	Rs. A. P. 906 15 3	100	B. K. D. 323 14 15 308.79	Rs. A. P. 1,030 9 0	12	B. K. D. 23 9 16 20.50	8	B. K. D. 22 2 8 19.31	Rs. A. P. 3 3 7	Rs. A. P. 3 5 4	Rs. A. P. 0 0 6	Rs. A. P.	Barwara has taken place since 1885, 40, 11k. 0d. are bhooli lands which the malik has now settled.
2	Rampur Udai ..	58	377 7 13 329.45	851 15 3	71	398 16 9 348.15	965 8 9	8	44 5 13 38.65	3	19 6 10 16.61	2 9 4	2 12 4	0 1 3	.....	
3	Akharpur Marwan ..	66	108 19 4 93.37	432 13 0	197	91.72 80 19 4	549 6 0	35	64 6 6 56.14	33	63 8 2 46.62	5 2 9	6 0 5	0 2 7	.....	
4	Rampur Kashi ..	131	155 10 6 135.75	497 2 6	145	169 16 13 148.25	534 6 9	36	65 8 15 57.12	21	64 19 4 56.71	3 10 7	3 9 8	.....	0 0 2	
5	Harpur Lahori ..	237	234 4 19 195.75	627 3 3	245	230 13 13 201.37	687 11 6	21	86 15 10 75.25	16	80 19 7 70.68	3 3 3	3 6 7	0 0 11	.....	
6	Deogan ..	43	7 10 18 6.58	20 2 6	28	5 17 3 5.11	19 3 6	115	53 15 14 46.95	65	64 15 2 56.53	3 1 0	3 12 2	0 3 7	.....	Barwara has taken place since 1885, 40, 11k. 0d. are bhooli lands which the malik has now settled.
7	Mothan urf Chuck Harun ..	163	180 14 14 157.77	298 1 6	149	177 10 5 154.96	288 4 0	21	50 16 13 44.37	11	52 1 16 45.47	1 14 2	1 14 9	0 0 3	.....	
8	Barakapur ..	74	231 14 11 202.28	686 0 6	98	232 8 14 202.98	672 4 9	4	27 4 8 23.76	2	25 0 10 21.84	3 6 3	3 4 11	.....	0	
9	Sirsia Khurd ..	31	39 3 17 34.31	137 1 9	22	25 17 10 22.56	98 13 0	2	4 0 10 3.51	2	17 6 10 15.12	3 15 11	4 6 0	0 1 6	.....	
10	Anantpur Karza ..	83	198 4 17 173.04	538 10 9	80	191 17 10 167.49	556 3 9	6	15 3 9 13.24	4	15 7 0 13.40	3 0 10	3 5 1	0 1 5	.....	
11	Kerwan Raghoram ..	75	131 7 5 114.67	355 8 6	97	139 6 16 119.97	345 10 3	50	52 15 10 46.07	27	53 9 0 46.66	3 1 7	3 0 10	.....	0 0 3	
12	Sirsia Buzurg ..	119	140 6 13 122.55	526 5 3	85	163 11 3 140.40	432 2 6	15	110 6 16 96.32	23	147 17 12 129.09	4 4 8	4 12 5	0 1 9	.....	
13	Silwat Basadeo ..	59	57 2 13 49.87	287 8 3	80	54 16 11 49.61	293 7 3	48	174 15 15 152.56	74	172 9 6 152.55	5 12 2	5 14 7	0 0 5	.....	
	Total	1,239	2,204 11 15 1,924.58 acres.	6,325 8 3	1,392	2,180 14 5 1,903.70 acres.	6,433 11 0	373	773 4 15 674.94 acres.	284	788 16 7 688.59 acres.	3 4 4	3 6 5	0 0 7	.....	

STATEMENT III.

Comparative Statement of rent.

Serial number.	NAMES OF VILLAGES.	RAIYATS WHOSE RENTS HAVE BEEN ENHANCED.										RAIYATS WHOSE RENTS HAVE BEEN REDUCED.										RAIYATS WHOSE RENTS HAVE REMAINED THE SAME.				REMARKS.
		Number of raiyats whose rents have been increased.	Former rent.	Present rent.	Former area.	Present area.	Percentage of increase of rent.	Percentage of increase of area.	Number of raiyats whose rents have been reduced.	Former rent.	Present rent.	Former area.	Present area.	Percentage of decrease of area.	Percentage of difference of rent.	Number of raiyats whose rents have remained the same.	Former area.	New area.	Plus.	Minus.	Percentage of difference in area.					
1			3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22				
1	Manpura	63	511 2 6	662 10 9	100 6 0	209 12 13	29 6	9 2	18	169 12 9	76 5 3	56 6 12	30 15 13	26 2	55 02	24	105 4 12	102 14 11	.....	.....	2 3					
2	Rampur Uda	15	275 13 9	329 14 9	120 10 0	135 19 3	19 5	12 8	12	155 11 6	103 3 6	66 6 6	44 9 3	32 8	33 8	28	189 5 7	185 5 11	.....	.....	2 1					
3	Akharpur Marwan	33	405 16 3	475 9 3	80 7 6	85 13 1	14 7	6 3	10	24 3 6	21 10 0	8 3 16	7 3 1	12 6	33 8	6	4 6 31	4 7 2	.....	.....	.....					
4	Rampur Kashi	55	290 13 0	346 4 9	87 12 9	83 14 10	54 8	45 3	30	173 15 3	83 3 9	57 3 6	30 12 0	44 5	51 7	22	23 16 13	25 4 18	.....	.....	.....					
5	Harpur Lahori	109	307 4 9	372 10 8	108 3 3	100 10 0	21 3	1 2	60	262 15 3	160 7 6	78 9 8	57 4 17	26 9	38 9	48	33 0 5	33 12 9	.....	.....	.....					
6	Deogan	35	74 5 0	103 7 3	37 9 6	44 5 2	39 2	18 1	1	1 9 0	Behabagan	0 8 3	0 5 0	38 6	100	30	108 8 8	110 1 0	.....	.....	.....					
7	Mohan urf Chuk	30	245 14 9	277 1 6	65 13 18	83 17 8	12 6	27 6	20	328 0 0	156 9 6	94 5 0	50 8 19	46 5	52 3	18	71 9 6	70 1 1	.....	.....	.....					
8	Barakapur	21	62 14 3	73 3 6	15 11 8	16 12 3	16 3	6 3	8	34 3 0	22 0 6	8 18 8	8 12 13	3 7	35 8	1	0 6 6	0 6 5	.....	.....	.....					
9	Sirsa Khurd	22	107 13 6	164 12 0	48 5 10	60 15 13	62 9	31 3	18	151 8 0	87 12 9	43 13 18	24 14 4	43 4	42 04	37	108 4 11	100 6 10	.....	.....	.....					
10	Anantpur Karwa	23	131 14 0	149 2 3	47 6 10	48 19 9	11 6	9 5	26	147 15 6	64 1 0	49 3 16	23 3 0	54 8	56 7	13	34 13 4	34 19 0	.....	.....	.....					
11	Korwan Baghoram	54	260 1 9	280 8 6	61 17 12	65 3 7	7 9	5 3	23	165 15 3	89 9 3	35 17 2	21 10 19	39 9	46 02	4	6 3 0	6 3 0	.....	.....	.....					
12	Sirsa Buzrug	15	121 10 9	150 14 0	18 14 5	26 13 8	24	42 5	16	77 5 0	52 9 0	15 5 15	10 7 1	32 2	32 01	16	15 9 1	14 7 5	.....	.....	.....					
13	Silwat Basdeo	455	2,725 11 3	3,385 11 9	840 15 12	970 19 12	14 2	24 2	257	1,789 0 6	962 8 6	543 8 8	323 6 14	40 5	46 1	312	703 7 12	692 12 1	.....	.....	.....					
	Total																									

STATEMENT IV.

Of the transfer of proprietary rights.

KHEWAT OF 1893.										ACCORDING TO THE PRESENT KHEWAT.										REMARKS.																
NAME OF MAUZA.				Number of estates. Number of proprietors in each village. Class of proprietor, i.e. whether land- lord or mahajan.				Extent of their in- terest.		Tauzi number.		Number of proprietors who are representatives in interest of those whose names appear in column 3.		Class of proprietor, i.e., land- pleader, lawyer, mahajan, and		Extent of their interest.		SUCCESSION.			SALE.				OTHER METHODS.											
										Tauzi number.		Number of proprietors who are representatives in interest of those whose names appear in column 3.		Class of proprietor, i.e., land- pleader, lawyer, mahajan, and		Extent of their interest.		SUCCESSION.			SALE.				OTHER METHODS.											
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20																	
																				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1. Manpura ..	2	2	Landlord	16 0 0	2	9	Landlord	.....	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....																
2. Rampur Udai ..	1	13	"	16 0 0	1	6	"	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	450	6 1 2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....																
3. Akhtarpur Marwan ..	1	6	"	16 0 0	8	18	"	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....																
4. Harpur Lahori ..	1	7	"	16 0 0	7	8	"	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....																
5. Deogan ..	1	19	"	16 0 0	19	34	"	.....	11	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....																
6. Mohan urf Chukh Harun	9	19	"	16 0 0	9	19	"	.....	9	.....	.....	.....	180	5 12 2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....																
7. Barakapur ..	1	6	"	16 0 0	1	6	"	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....																
8. Siria Khurd Karza	1	1	"	16 0 0	1	1	"	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....																
9. Anantpur ..	1	1	"	16 0 0	1	1	"	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....																
10. Kerwin Raghoram	10	20	"	16 0 0	10	30	"	.....	9	.....	.....	.....	708	5 7 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....																
11. Siria Buzrug ..	1	1	"	16 0 0	1	1	"	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....																
12. Silwat Baasdeo ..	9	39	"	16 0 0	9	39	"	.....	11	.....	.....	.....	33	3 10 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....																
Total	38	133	..	.....	69	171	..	.....	63	.....	8	.....	1,653	20 10 4	.....	.....	.....	71	.....	.....																
																				Rs. A. P.	Average price per bigha 80 10 0		Average price per acre 92 7 0													

Transfer of Occupancy rights in the area attested in 1895-96.

Camp number with pargana.	Number of villages attested.	Total area of villages attested.	AREA OF ENTIRE HOLDING TRANSFERRED		AREA OF PART HOLDING TRANSFERRED		TOTAL AREA TRANSFERRED		PERCENTAGE TO COLUMN 14		PERCENTAGE TO COLUMN 15		PERCENTAGE TO COLUMN 16	
			By sale.	Total.	By mortgage.	Total.	By sale.	Total.	Of column 8.	Of column 11.	Of column 9.	Of column 12.	Of column 10.	Of column 13.
I	53	57,700-99	70-93	501-05	97-03	1,307-11	1,804-14	1,637-48	43-13	57-87	26-29	73-71	27-76	72-24
II	105	68,555-94	39-01	14-84	52-05	541-00	593-95	91-06	43-94	57-16	10-62	83-38	19-85	80-15
III	89	44,256-35	252-35	592-62	110-82	187-70	398-32	3-63	69-49	30-51	77-33	22-67	74-94	25-06
IV	113	52,644-17	44-90	137-91	14-91	340-08	363-99	59-81	76-08	24-92	21-04	78-96	27-47	72-53
V	23	10,718-52	14-33	23-61	16-58	67-60	84-18	30-81	46-19	53-81	12-8	87-82	21-90	78-10
VIA	107	52,123-76	28-80	41-64	39-46	208-26	247-72	68-96	43-19	57-81	5-81	94-19	14-40	85-60
VII	140	58,185-73	897	305-87	143-75	423-89	669-64	290-75	875-51	60-56	27-17	72-83	84-93	68-07
VIII	125	27,928-44	12-01	49-27	67-21	217-43	274-64	69-23	323-91	82-65	14-93	86-37	16-21	84-79
IX	70	39,776-98	138-78	271-94	40-83	279-89	320-72	229-61	115-09	83-22	22-91	77-09	46-89	54-11
X	22	52,660-35	11-23	76-01	7-09	217-43	274-64	69-23	323-91	82-65	14-93	86-37	16-21	84-79
XI	137	66,276-66	29-43	77-73	14-67	146-61	161-28	194-86	592-66	17-78	68-94	78-53	32-52	67-48
XII	132	65,611-59	62-94	84-53	117-43	323-99	510-47	170-43	239-01	66-78	33-22	24-76	73-24	26-76
XIII	129	70,992-14	26-72	107-96	30-57	360-07	390-64	468-03	46-64	53-36	23-07	75-93	25-63	74-37
XIV	1,269	652,507-61	918-11	2,754-91	742-45	4,494-39	5,146-94	6,241-19	55-23	44-72	29-43	70-57	34-57	65-43
Total			8,083	1,830-30				1,600-56						

Camp number with pargana.	PERCENTAGE TO COLUMN 3A		PERCENTAGE TO COLUMN 4		NUMBER OF TRANSFERS TO—		PRICE PAID FOR AREA TRANSFERRED IN RUPEES.		RATE PER ACRE FOR LAND TRANSFERRED IN RUPEES.		HIGHEST RATE PER ACRE IN RUPEES.		LOWEST RATE PER ACRE IN RUPEES.		REMARKS.
	Of column 14.	Of column 15.	Of column 6.	Of column 7.	Landlord.	Lawyers.	Money-lenders.	By sale.	By mortgage.	Total.	By sale.	By mortgage.	By sale.	By mortgage.	
I	4104	4104	4104	4104	824	824	824	1,615-10	1,615-10	1,615-10	1,615-10	1,615-10	1,615-10	1,615-10	
II	159	159	159	159	77	77	77	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	
III	159	159	159	159	77	77	77	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	
IV	159	159	159	159	77	77	77	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	
V	159	159	159	159	77	77	77	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	
VIA	159	159	159	159	77	77	77	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	
VII	159	159	159	159	77	77	77	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	
VIII	159	159	159	159	77	77	77	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	
IX	159	159	159	159	77	77	77	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	
X	159	159	159	159	77	77	77	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	
XI	159	159	159	159	77	77	77	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	
XII	159	159	159	159	77	77	77	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	
XIII	159	159	159	159	77	77	77	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	
XIV	159	159	159	159	77	77	77	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	1,750-00	
Total	136	136	136	136	291	291	291	6,864-11	6,864-11	6,864-11	6,864-11	6,864-11	6,864-11	6,864-11	

xxxxiv

Transfer of proprietary rights in the area attested in 1895-96.

CAMP NUMBER.	Number of villages selected.	Total area of these villages.	Total number of khewat entries.	Number of transfers.	Area transferred.	Percentage of column 6 to 3.	Percentage of column 6 to 4.	NUMBER OF TRANSFERS TO—				Share of land revenue transferred, if given.	Price paid.	Average rate per acre of land transferred.	Highest rate.	Lowest rate.	REMARKS.
								Landlord.	Lawyer class.	Money-lenders.	Rajyats.						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1a	No.	BIG. K.	No.	No.	BIG. K.							Rs. A P.	Rs. A P.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1b	10	3,857 71	55	23	354 50	9 28	41	9	2	2	10	...	20,056 8 0	53	86	69	
1c	17	14,000 15	202	40	1,377 14	9 83	19	24	...	3	13	72 10 33	1,07,890 0 0	78	80	46	
2	11	6,068 80	246	43	695 59	16 45	17	29	...	3	11	41,131 0 0	58	65	55		
3	18	10,477 13	315	57	709 0	6 76	18	54	...	3	...	369 1 6	54,318 0 0	76	80	65	
4	7	5,344 87	160	16	325 30	6 13	10	12	...	1	...	...	27,568 0 0	84	90	75	
5	23	13,897 29	335	60	928 57	6 08	17	37	4	9	10	1,250 8 3	57,514 6 0	60	75	60	
6	15	12,028 32	214	80	426 65	3 38	37	57	3	11	9	562 5 7	36,624 6 8	85	92	80	
7	14	7,068 50	175	38	340 23	4 23	21	39	...	...	...	186 12 8	22,091 8 0	73	75	65	
8	12	4,769 7	245	41	350 68	6 9	16	31	...	10	...	...	23,180 0 0	62	65	55	
9	7	2,402 6	175	49	475 23	19 36	28	39	...	1	9	37 10 9	32,036 12 0	67	72	60	
10	17	8,555 0	356	31	319 78	3 78	8	24	...	2	3	...	23,310 0 0	72	75	52	
11	20	1,621 86	86	55	700 75	42 20	63	39	...	7	9	3,075 15 7	51,479 12 0	73	80	70	
12	11	11,083 83	209	56	425 78	3 84	27	27	3	7	18	54 4 10	35,632 0 0	83	90	75	
13	18	3,787 45	70	19	373 31	9 85	27	13	...	4	2	...	24,888 13 0	66	67	55	
14	194	206,502 4	2,845	607	7,762 81	7 23	21	435	13	59	100	...	5,67,319 1 8	73	...	...	

Staff of Officers.

NAME OF OFFICER.	Work on which employed.	Period of employment.	Days spent on tour.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
1. P. C. Lyon, Esq., C.S.	Settlement Officer	From 1st October to 14th February 1896.	53	
2. C. J. Stevenson-Moore, Esq., C.S.	Ditto	From 15th February to 7th July 1896.	80	On special leave for 3 months from 8th July 1896.
1. F. R. Roe, Esq., C.S.	Khanapuri inspection and investigation of boundary disputes and attestation.	From 7th December 1895 to 22nd March 1896.	85	Reverted to general duty.
2. R. B. Hughes, Esq., C.S.	In charge of office, attestation and general supervision.	From 1st October to 30th September 1896.	129	On privilege leave for one month from 17th May to 16th June.
3. Babu Bhabataran Chatterjee.	Attestation and case-work	From 12th October to 30th September 1896.	295	On privilege leave for one month and 14 days from 26th July to 7th September.
4. „ Siva Sanker Singh	Attestation, cost recovery, and case-work.	From 14th October to 30th September.	233	On privilege leave for 2 months and 10 days from 25th June 1896 to 2nd September 1896.
5. Mr. Dwija Das Dutt	Attestation	From 1st October to 24th February.	76	Took medical leave from 24th February. Reverted to general duty.
6. Maulvi Ashfaq Hussein	Ditto	From 11th October to 7th June 1896.	229	Reverted to general duty.
7. Babu Makhan Lal Chatterjee	Ditto	From 10th October to 10th May 1896.	193	Ditto ditto.
8. Mr. Rowland N. L. Chandra	Ditto	From 11th October to 15th May 1896.	202	Ditto ditto.
9. Babu Charu Chandra Kumar	Attestation and case-work	From 1st October to end of the year.	354	
10. „ Probodh Ch. Chatterjee.	Attestation	From 31st October 1895 to 22nd May 1896.	134	Reverted to general duty.
11. „ Nand Keshwar Lal	Attestation and case-work	From 31st October to 4th May 1896, and from 5th August to end of year.	236	Reverted to general duty and rejoined on 5th August 1896.
12. M. Syed Ali Ashraf	Attestation	From 2nd April to 12th May 1896.	35	Reverted to general duty.
13. Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta.	Attestation and case-work	From 1st October to 13th September 1896.	272	On privilege leave from 14th September.
14. „ Rai Krishna Bahadur	Office and case-work	From 1st October to end of the year.	34	
15. Narendra Kumar Ghose	Case-work	From 30th June 1896 to 18th July 1896.	16	On privilege leave from 18th July 1896.
16. Babu Chintaharan Chatterjee.	Attestation and case-work	From 1st November to end of the year.	327	
17. Mr. Sorab S. Day	Attestation	From 13th October to 17th June 1896.	239	Transferred to Bogra on settlement duty.
18. Babu Sarat Chandra Mukerjee.	Ditto	From 1st April to 26th May 1896	55	Reverted to general duty.
19. „ Man Mohan Chatterjee.	Ditto	From 10th October to 13th May 1896.	197	Ditto ditto.
20. „ Ramesh Chander Dutt	Attestation and case-work	From 31st October to the end of the year.	321	
21. „ Harsahai Lal	Khanapuri inspection and investigation of boundary disputes.	From 1st November to 1st May 1896.	150	Reverted to general duty.

C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX IX (ii).

CHAMPARAN—ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING
30TH SEPTEMBER 1896.

1. *Notifications*.—At the commencement of the year, 1,185 square miles in the north-west of the district remained for cadastral survey and record-writing. This area was brought within the scope of Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act by notification No. 4538L.R., dated 14th October 1895. The work of the Settlement Department in attesting and completing the records prepared in the previous year was confined to the area of 1,162 square miles covered by a series of notifications (Nos. 4567L.R., 4568L.R., 4569L.R., 4570L.R., and 4571L.R.) published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of 12th September 1894. By notification No. 5307L.R., dated 9th December 1895, the provisions of the Land Record Maintenance Act III (B. C.) of 1895, were extended to Bettiah thana in this district.

2. *Programme*.—The programme of work set out for the settlement staff during the year was—

- (1) The supervision of khanapuri in the area of 1,185 square miles under cadastral survey, and the investigation and decision of boundary and miscellaneous disputes arising in villages in this area.
- (2) The attestation of the area of 1,162 square miles in which record-writing had been completed by the Survey Department during the field season of 1894-95.
- (3) The settlement of fair rents in all cases in which applications should be made throughout the area set down for attestation.
- (4) The disposal of objections and disputes under sections 105 and 106 in villages draft published.
- (5) The completion of the records for the area to be attested.
- (6) The recovery of costs from the proprietors, tenure-holders and raiyats of the 307 villages, covering an area of about 420 square miles, which were attested in 1893-94.
- (7) The preparation of Mutation Registers for those villages to be handed over to the Collector for the maintenance of the record under Act III (B.C.) of 1895.

3. *Staff of officers and distribution of work*.—Mr. Lyon had charge of the operations as Settlement Officer, in addition to his duties in Muzaffarpur, from the beginning of the year up to the 7th November, when he was relieved by Mr. Colvin, who had been acting as Collector of the district, and returned once more to his former post. Mr. Colvin went on furlough on the 8th March, and was succeeded by me. I had charge of the district for the rest of the year, but from the 7th July was absent on three months special leave. Mr. Kerr was in subordinate charge of the operations throughout the year. In Statement A attached to this report, full particulars are given of the staff of Assistant Settlement Officers employed, the nature of the work they were engaged on, and the number of days they were on tour. Four of the Assistant Settlement Officers, viz., Babu Hemanta Kumar Moitra, Babu Harbans Sahai, Maulvi Syed Abdul Salik, and Maulvi Ahmed Ali Khan, were on tour more than 300 days. Mr. Kerr was 215 days on tour, and Mr. Colvin 56. During the four months I was in charge, I spent 28 days in this district.

4. *Record-writing*.—Two survey parties were at work in the district during the year, under the charge of Messrs. R. B. and A. W. Smart. The area of 1,185 square miles dealt with by them was divided into four circles, each in charge of an Assistant Settlement Officer, who inspected khanapuri, decided boundary disputes, and dealt with miscellaneous disputes arising in the course of khanapuri.

The survey parties started work about the middle of November, but owing to the unhealthiness of the season, and an outbreak of malarious fever and ague, very little work was done until a month later. Sickness was specially prevalent in Mr. A. W. Smart's camp in the extreme north-western area, where at one time nearly the whole of his staff was down with fever and a number of amins deserted. They were, however, subsequently brought back. The work was pushed on with great vigour after the beginning of January, and was practically finished by the end of March. In consequence of the experience gained last year, it has been decided not to begin attestation work in this area until January.

Khanapuri inspection was greatly hindered by illness among the Assistant Settlement Officers and among the survey staff. Maulvi Syed Ali Ashraf, who was placed in charge of one of the circles in Mr. A. W. Smart's camp, was attacked by fever almost immediately he arrived, and had to be granted a month's leave on medical certificate. It was not until after Christmas that Mr. Colvin was able to send Mr. Kerr, who had hitherto been engaged

in inspecting attestation camps, to the khanapuri area. Mr. Kerr remained on khanapuri work till the end of February, when he was recalled to head-quarters. In Mr. R. B. Smart's circle both the officers suffered from ill health, and in the beginning of March Maulvi Syed Izahar Hussain was recalled to take charge of an attestation camp. Altogether khanapuri was inspected in 540 villages out of 1,047. The work was of an exceedingly simple character: the average size of a plot was found to be an acre and a quarter. Disputes were few in number and simple in nature. Nearly the whole area belongs to the Bettiah and Ramnagar Raj, the tenures are of a very simple description, and the work is generally admitted to be the least intricate which we have yet met with in Bihar. None the less, I am inclined to think, the khanapuri inspection was not adequate, as much trouble is avoided by mistakes being rectified in the preliminary stages of the proceedings.

5. At the beginning of the season it was proposed to exclude from our operations certain tracts known as "tharu villages." The Tharus are an aboriginal tribe of Mongolian extraction, who hold lands on both sides of the hills which form the boundary between Champaran and Nepal. A large portion of their holdings consists of waste land and jungle, and many of them pay rent not at a fixed rate per bigha, but on the number of ploughs which they possess, the object of the landlords being to get as much land brought under cultivation as possible. Careful enquiries, however, showed that the Tharus themselves were strongly in favour of the extension of the survey to their villages, and that the plough system of paying rent and other anomalous customs were gradually dying out, and that in the greater part of the area the conditions of tenancy were the same as those prevailing in the rest of the district.

It was, therefore, finally decided to cadastrally survey the whole district including these villages, and excluding only 250 square miles of uninhabited hill and jungle country in the extreme north-west. Mr. Kerr reports that the interest taken by the Tharus in the operations was most marked. Many of them had never seen a European before, and they displayed the utmost curiosity in following the amins' operations in measurement and map drawing. Their dialect, though differing somewhat from that spoken in the rest of the district, proved to be no serious hinderance to the conduct of the work.

6. The supervision of the survey staff seems to have been effective. Several amins were dismissed for bad work, disobedience of orders, and other faults. One was convicted by the Sessions Judge under section 167, Indian Penal Code, for falsifying a record, and sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment.

7. *Boundary disputes.*—Five hundred and nine boundary disputes were instituted during the year, a larger number than in the whole of the rest of the district. All of these were disposed of. Many of them affected areas of 50 acres and upwards, but most of the land in dispute was waste, and the parties readily consented to the revenue survey line being adopted. In fact, in many of the cases, they admitted that they did not know where one village ended and the other began, and their ignorance on the point accounts for the large number of cases brought. Twelve appeals were preferred before the Collector, who upheld the Assistant Settlement Officer's decisions in eleven cases and reversed it in one. As the work of demarcating village boundaries has now been completed in this district, it may be interesting to note that out of 988 cases decided, appeals have been instituted in only 37. In 34 of these the Collector upheld the Assistant Settlement Officer's decision, one decision was modified and two reversed.

8. *Attestation.*—One thousand one hundred and sixty-two square miles, contained in 1,075 villages with 1,358,793 plots held by 193,611 tenants, were brought under attestation and split up into 9 camps. This area consists of a strip of country running round the east and south sides of the district, and the attestation of portions of it presented considerable difficulties. The attestation programme for each camp approximated to 150,000 plots. Maulvi Abdul Salik headed the list with 174,000; but in his camp, which fell mainly in Hardi thana, the conditions resemble those found in the north of the district, where population is scanty and much of the land uncultivated. The only opposition he had to contend with was that offered by malaria, and he finished his programme by the end of April. In the adjacent camp, however—camp B allotted to Babu Hem Chandra Chatterjee—the work in certain villages held by the Murla and Hardia Factories gave rise to some trouble.

9. The majority of the raiyats in certain villages held by the Murla factory had executed agreements to grow indigo for the factory on 3 cottahs per bigha of their holdings, on condition that the factory abstained from raising their rents while they continued to do so. A further provision in the agreement stated that the raiyats shall lose their occupancy rights should they cease to grow indigo. This provision is clearly illegal, and the pattas had all expired in 1887 and had not been renewed. Nevertheless the raiyats have continued to hold their lands under the same conditions, and Mr. Colvin was of opinion that this system of growing indigo was so different from that followed in the rest of the district, that some mention of it ought to be made in the record of rights. He accordingly ordered that the fact of the growing of indigo by the raiyats should be entered in the column for incidents of tenancy. The raiyats, who had recently had disputes with the factory about other matters, took alarm at this innovation and sent a telegram of protest to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor. In the meantime I had taken over charge from Mr. Colvin, and, after careful enquiry, submitted a report to the effect that, though it was doubtful whether the growing of indigo should be regarded as an incident, yet, as there was no doubt that the raiyats of this

It may be noted that Messrs. R. B. and A. W. Smart are both officers of experience, and that they and their assistants helped in supervising khanapuri.

P. C. L.

17-11-96.

factory grew indigo under exceptional circumstances which were not prevalent elsewhere, the fact of the growing of indigo, and not their obligation to do so, should find some mention in our papers. I therefore recommended that we should record the fact in the remarks column of the khatians. Meanwhile the Bihar Indigo Planters' Association took the matter up and referred it to Sir Griffith Evans, who gave the opinion that the growing of indigo by the raiyats of the factory could properly be regarded as an incident of the tenancy. Final orders have not yet been passed in this matter. In the meantime Mr. Harman, on the advice of the Planters' Association, has been endeavouring to introduce at Murla the "sutta" system which prevails and has worked well in the other factories of the district, and under which the growing of indigo is carried out on a contract entirely separate from that under which the raiyat holds his lands. He has met with considerable success so far, and there is every reason to believe that as soon as the raiyats come to appreciate the advantages of this system over that under which they have hitherto worked, they will readily accept it, in which case the question of entering the growing of indigo in our papers will be set at rest.

10. A somewhat similar difficulty arose in regard to the villages in lease to the Hardia factory. This factory abandoned the growing of indigo some years ago, and permitted the cultivators to grow instead bhadoi rice, for which the soil of its villages is specially suited, and the majority of them, in consideration of being freed from their contracts, to grow indigo executed agreements to deliver to the factory rice grown on three cottahs in the bigha of their holding at rates varying from 20 to 25 maunds per bigha. For this they received a nominal price, apparently by way of remission of rent, for the land on which they grew rice for the factory. As these contracts, unlike the Murla ones, are still in force, and as the raiyats have undoubtedly carried them out for some years past, although, when the system was first started, it may in some cases have amounted to an illegal enhancement of rent, I thought it right that some mention of them should be made in our papers. I accordingly ordered the raiyat's original cash rent, as shown in the *jamabandis*, to be entered in the rent column, and in the column of remarks a note showing that the raiyat had agreed for a term of years to deliver so many maunds of *dhan* to the factory. This entry was only made in the case of those raiyats who were proved to have fulfilled their contract. The factory has now passed into the hands of new proprietors, who intend to reintroduce the growing of indigo and have already obtained "suttas" from the majority of the raiyats after cancelling the rice agreements hitherto in force. The entries relating to "Hunda paddy" will therefore be struck out of our papers and will not form part of the finally published record of rights. In spite of the lengthy enquiries necessary for the elucidation of these problems, the work of this camp was finished by the middle of April.

11. In camp C, Babu Narendra Kumar Ghosh had special difficulties to contend with in attesting the villages of Tappa Doho Soho, which is entirely the property of the Madhuban Babu, who has been for many years on bad terms with his raiyats. The Babu claimed the rents entered in his rent-roll, the raiyats invariably disputed them, and 15 years' litigation increased the difficulty of ascertaining what the correct rents were. Taking advantage of this chaotic state of things, both parties advanced claims which were unjustifiable and often, on the face of them, unreasonable. Babu Narendra Kumar Ghosh was closely supervised by Mr. Colvin and Mr. Kerr, and subsequent case-work showed that the attestation had been fairly well done. The landlord brought a large number of cases for the settlement of fair rents. A large number of these were thrown out, and in several cases the raiyats brought cases under section 105, which resulted in the attested rent being reduced. The area covered by the remaining attestation camps gave rise to no difficulties requiring special mention. In camp E, of which Mr. Kerr and subsequently Babu Hemanta Kumar Moitra held charge, a large number of petty landlords were found, who induced their relations and servants to prefer bogus claims with a view to ousting the real cultivators out of their rights. These attempts were successfully withstood. With this exception, much of the south part of the district is held by Indigo factories. Here the Bettia Raj does not hold entire jurisdiction, and a certain amount of subinfeudation exists; but it is much less complicated than in Muzaffarpur and Saran, and was not found to be a serious obstacle to carrying through the work. All the Assistant Settlement Officers were able to work up to their programmes, attesting from 23,000 to 30,000 plots a month, and the work was completed well within the time allotted. The present system of conducting attestation worked smoothly, the only exception being in some villages in camps C. and D, where areas had been converted from acres into bighas, not according to the local laggi, but according to the pargana laggi of $7\frac{1}{2}$ cubits determined at the Revenue Survey. The uneasiness that arose in consequence was speedily allayed when the areas were revised and the raiyats were brought to understand that, in settling fair rents, the area according to the local laggi would be adopted as the basis of the assessment. The Champaran raiyats now thoroughly understand the objects and procedure of the Settlement Department. They attend the camps willingly, and take a keen interest in seeing that their rights have been properly recorded.

12. *Settlement of fair rents.*—As in previous years, this part of our work was very heavy. Seven officers were engaged on it at different times during the recess. Altogether 1,425 cases were filed during the year, involving about 45,000 tenants. 1,029 cases involving 34,633 tenants were disposed of before the end of the year, and a rental of Rs. 3,69,366 was raised to Rs. 3,98,762, being an increase of Rs. 29,396 or 7.9 per cent. Only Rs. 69 enhancement was given under section 30 on an increase of rate, the balance was given under section 52 on an increase of area.

It may be noted that the local bigha is equivalent to 2 acres.

P. C. L.

17-11-96.

I have reason to believe that a record of rights was very carefully prepared in this area, and will be of great value.

P. C. L.

17-11-96.

The following table shows the result of our work in settling fair rents in Champaran from the beginning of the operations :—

AREA.	Number of tenants for whom fair rents were settled.	Former rental.	Fair rent settled.	Enhancement.	Percentage of enhancement.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Attested in 1893-94 ...	22,151	Rs. 1,44,556	Rs. 1,62,636	Rs. 18,080	12.50
Ditto 1894-95 ...	12,850	1,09,276	1,20,028	10,752	9.83
Ditto 1895-96 ...	34,633	3,69,366	3,98,762	29,396	7.9
Total ...	69,634	6,23,198	6,81,426	58,228	9.3

It will be observed that the percentage of increase given this year was less than that given in either of the preceding years. This is only natural, considering that much of our work this year has lain in the southern part of the district, where there is a denser population and more cultivation than in the north, where the raiyats can more easily encroach on the waste land surrounding their holdings.

A large majority of the cases was compromised, the raiyats generally admitting the reasonableness of being called upon to pay rent for the excess lands found in their possession. In the few cases which were contested, the influence of the mahajans, or of an important raiyat who bore a grudge against his landlord, could generally be traced, stirring up the rest of the raiyats to fight, against their better judgment. Occasionally also there was a genuine dispute as to the local standard of measure, which had to be settled before a fair rent could be assessed.

No compromise had to be rejected on the ground of unfairness, and the landlords in most cases took the trouble to ascertain what would be considered a fair basis for compromise before filing it, and in all cases showed themselves willing to give a liberal allowance for any difference between the standard and method of measurement of the present survey and that on which their rent-rolls were based. In dealing with compromises, the principles laid down in the High Court ruling in the case of the Maharani of Bettiah *versus* Sabh Gand, &c., were strictly followed, and the greatest care was observed in ascertaining that the raiyats fully understood the terms to which they were agreeing.

The trifling increase given under section 30 was decreed in terms of a compromise filed in some villages belonging to the Hatwa Raj. In contested cases, where the landlord sought to raise the raiyats' rates on the ground that they were below the prevailing rate of the village, the Assistant Settlement Officers took the view of the Advocate General as expressed in his opinion on the case of the Maharaja of Hill Tippera *versus* Nazir Mohamed and others, and held that, as there is in Champaran no "rate per bigha for various classes of soil, but only a letting of estimated areas at a lump sum," there is therefore no prevailing rate within the meaning of the law, and dismissed the application for enhancement of rate on this ground. As the Hatwa Raj compromises, however, only affected a few well-to-do tenants who had hitherto been allowed to hold at exceptionally low rates, and as the enhancement in no case exceeded half an anna in the rupee, I did not think it necessary to interfere.

In other cases the landlords generally applied for enhancement of rate as well as for assessment of the excess area to rent, but withdrew the former petition when the latter was granted. It is generally recognised that in the present state of the law, and with the uncertainty which attaches to the meaning of the term "prevailing rate," attempt to raise rates under section 30 cause more trouble than they are worth; and when the results are so uncertain, landlords are unwilling to incur the certain odium of taking steps to force up rent rates.

Several applications for enhancement were made on the ground of a rise in prices, but, as in previous years, no evidence, worthy of the name, was offered in support of the claim and the cases failed.

Only one appeal was decided by the Special Judge during the year, and 101 are pending. The result of the decided appeal was not particularly instructive. The Special Judge remanded the case for re-enquiry under a misconception, and the appellant subsequently withdrew the appeal.

13. *Draft publication.*—As in previous years, draft publication has been much delayed owing to the fact that cases under section 104 were filed in almost every village attested last year. It was, however, started as early as possible, and the work has now been completed for 575 out of the 1,075 villages concerned.

14. *Objections under section 105.*—4,126 cases were instituted during the year, but of these 2,107 referred to the area attested in 1894-95. 3,971 cases were disposed of and there are 858 pending. More, however, are coming in daily from the villages which are now being

draft published. It will, however, be possible to dispose of most of them before the attestation season commences in January. Most of the cases, so far filed, have been of an uncontentionous nature and relate to obvious mistakes in the record, which all parties concerned are desirous to have rectified. The chief exceptions are those from the Madhuban Babus' villages in Tappa Doho Soho objecting to the entry of existing rent made at attestation. The results of many of the cases have shown that the rents as recorded by the attestation officer were too high, and they have been reduced accordingly, but on the whole very careful enquiry into these objections has justified the majority of the attestation officer's decisions.

15. *Disputes under section 106.*—393 cases were instituted, of which 324 related to the area attested in 1894-95. The bulk of those relating to the area attested this year will not be filed for some time yet. 322 cases were decided, chiefly by Pandit Ram Ballabh Misra at head-quarters. Many of them raised difficult questions of title and inheritance. One appeal was heard during the year by the Special Judge, who slightly modified the Assistant Settlement Officer's decision; 37 appeals are pending.

16. *Final publication.*—Final publication has now been completed for 678 out of the 679 villages attested in 1893-94 and 1894-95, and the records are ready to be made over to the Collector. Final publication has not yet been started in the area attested this year.

17. *Cost.*—A statement J is annexed to this report showing the details of expenditure during the survey year; but as our estimates and accounts are made for the financial year, it is not possible now to compare the expenditure with the budget allotments. The apparent increase of expenditure over budget allotment is due to the fact that the period to which the figures relate includes the time during which we had the largest number of officers at work in the district, the expenditure on whom was drawn from the budget allotment for two years. During the year ending 31st March 1896, we spent Rs. 97,000 out of a budget allotment of Rs. 1,00,000, and during the seven months which have elapsed of the present year, we have spent Rs. 50,000 out of an allotment of Rs. 1,00,000.

18. *Recovery of cost.*—In the beginning of January orders were received to start the work of recovering the cost of the survey and settlement operations from the landlords and tenants of the 307 villages in Bettiah thanah which were attested in 1893-94. By the middle of February bills had been prepared for a sufficient number of villages to enable the work of collection to be started, and Maulvi Syed Ahmed Ali Khan was recalled from his attestation camp and placed in charge of it. The system followed was analogous to that pursued at attestation. The recovery officer pitched his camp at a convenient centre, and notices were issued to the raiyats of the surrounding villages to come in on a certain day and pay up their demands. When they did so, they were given a certified copy of an extract from the record of rights relating to their holdings. On the whole, considering that it was our first experiment in work of this nature, the business of collection proceeded with wonderfully little friction. The large majority of the raiyats showed themselves eager to possess copies of the khatians, and perfectly willing to pay the moderate sums demanded from them. Out of a total demand from raiyats of Rs. 38,125, the recovery officer collected Rs. 36,452 without the aid of certificates. Of the balance of Rs. 1,673, over half has been ascertained to be due from holdings abandoned by their occupants since attestation, and not resettled with other tenants. This will be realized from the landlords. Certificates are now being issued for the remainder, and the amounts due are coming in in small sums daily. Mr. J. J. Macleod, C.I.E., of Lal Sarayah Factory, has promised to pay up the whole of the raiyats' share of the cost of the survey in the villages held by him, and many of the other factories paid the amounts due from several of their raiyats, thus greatly simplifying our work of collection.

It was unfortunately possible to realise a small sum only from the landlords, as most of them claimed a deduction on account of advances which they made to the Survey Department in 1892-93. The Survey Department had been endeavouring for the last four years to ascertain the exact amount of these claims, but they had not the power which cost recovery gives us to compel the production of account and vouchers, and there was no doubt that the provisional accounts prepared by Mr. R. B. Smart, in consultation with the Manager of the Bettiah Raj, were incomplete and inaccurate in many respects. I accordingly proposed that the business of clearing up these accounts should be made over to us by the Survey Department. My proposal was accepted, and Mr. Kerr has been engaged during the recess on this work. He has since my return from leave submitted a full report, and I hope to be able within a short time to issue bills to all the landlords concerned, showing the actual amount due from them after deduction of the amounts which they advanced to the Survey Department in 1892-93. Much credit is due to Mr. Kerr for the manner in which he has surmounted this formidable difficulty, which will not, I am glad to say, recur, as the system of giving advances to the Survey Department was fortunately confined to the Bettiah thana.

As was to be expected, in the course of our recovery work many defects in the original procedure were brought to light, and many improvements suggested themselves. On the whole the system originally proposed by Mr. Colvin was found to be not sufficiently elaborate, while the Muzaffarpur system on the other hand, though slightly more costly, ensured more reliable and accurate work. For instance, in Champaran it was thought that it would be sufficient to enter the amount paid by each raiyat on the khatian given to him, no separate receipt being supplied or counterfoil retained. But for lands held by landlords there may be many sharers, each paying a share separately, whereas there is only one khatian. In such a case the khatian is useless as a receipt. Experience, too, showed that counterfoil receipts were

desirable as an additional check on the tahsildar's daily collection accounts, and that the giving of a separate receipt to each raiyat was more satisfactory than merely entering the amount paid by him on his khatian. I have accordingly drawn up new rules for recovery work, based principally on the system followed last season in Muzaffarpur, and these will be adopted for this year's work in Champaran.

On the other hand the computation forms originally proposed for Champaran have been retained. They are much simpler than those used in Muzaffarpur, where the greater intricacy of tenures, due to the prevalence of private partitions of the lands of single estates, requires more elaborate calculation of the amount due from each person interested in the land.

19. *Maintenance work.*—Mutation Registers were prepared during the year for all the villages finally published in the Bettiah thana. These were made over to the Collector in July, and on the 5th August a mutation office was opened at Bettiah in charge of the Sub-Registrar. It is too early as yet to judge of the success which Act III of 1895 is likely to gain; but 45 mutations have already been recorded, and the Managers of the Bettiah Raj and of most of the Indigo factories are doing their best to impress upon raiyats the desirability of registering their transfers. It cannot be expected, however, that the full number of transfers which have taken place since attestation will be brought to light until the landlords are supplied with copies of the record. These will be made over to them as soon as the amounts due from them have been ascertained and paid up. It must also be remembered that, owing to the predominance of the Raj and Indigo factories in the Bettiah thana, the circumstances of that area are so peculiar as to render any success which may be met with in working the Act there inapplicable as a criterion for the greater part of the rest of North Bihar.

20. *Statistics of village area, &c.*—The figures in statement D attached show that the 1,754 villages which we have attested so far cover an area of 2,080 square miles, that they contain 336,102 tenancies and 828,511 plots. Thus the average area at a village is 1.13 square miles, containing 191 tenancies and 471 plots; each tenancy covers nearly 4 acres and each plot is 1/6 of an acre. These figures are, however, liable to revision, as they have been compiled before the preparation of final terijes for many of the villages included in the statistics.

21. *Statistics of status and rent.*—Owing to the number of alterations which frequently take place in the arrangements of a record between attestation and final publication, it was decided to postpone the preparation of final terijes until after the disposal of section 105 cases and the completion of the office check of the record. I am consequently only able to give full statistics in the prescribed form for 931 villages. Statement L gives an abstract of these statistics so far as they relate to cultivated land, and is in the form given on page xxvi, Appendix B of the Survey and Settlement Manual. These villages cover an area of 1,052 square miles. They are situated in a fairly compact block in the southern half of the district, and the figures for the Bettiah, Govindganj, Motihari, Kesaria and Madhuban Thana areas may probably be taken as fairly representative of the actual state of things in those thanas. It will be seen that of the 1,052 square miles, 762 or 72 per cent. are cultivated. Of the cultivated areas only 1,779 acres or .003 per cent. has been found to be proprietors, private land. The area cultivated by raiyats (excluding under-raiyats) is 433,006 acres. Of this no less than 400,187 acres or 92 per cent. is held by raiyats with occupancy rights, 2½ per cent. being held by raiyats at fixed rates and 5½ per cent. by non-occupancy raiyats. The average size of an occupancy raiyat's holding is 4.7 acres, of which 4.01 is cultivated; while the holding of a non-occupancy raiyat is only 1.9 acres. The average size of the holding of a raiyat at fixed rates is 1.1 acres, of which 8½ acres are cultivated. The total number of raiyats is 109,292, of whom 1,183 or one per cent. hold at fixed rates or rents, 94,806 or 86 per cent. have occupancy rights, and 14,303 or 13 per cent. are non-occupancy raiyats. Thus 5½ per cent. of the cultivated area is held by 13½ per cent. of the total number of raiyats without possessing occupancy rights. This bears out the results of the transfer statistics which are discussed in paragraph 25 below, and shows that a considerable number of the Champaran raiyats are getting into pecuniary difficulties in their own villages, migrate to a new village, and take up small quantities of land there. It shows moreover that the raiyats at fixed rates form a small but extremely well-to-do portion of the community. Their holdings are large and their rent rates only annas 15 per acre. Raiyats with occupancy rights, who form the great majority of the agricultural population, are also fairly well off with holdings of nearly five acres and a rent rate of Rs. 1-11-6. The rent-rate for non-occupancy raiyats is only Rs. 2-2-7, which is not excessively high, but there is no doubt that this class is in much poorer circumstances than the other two, owing to the small area of land held by each individual raiyat. Of the whole area cultivated by raiyats, only 24,016 acres or 5 per cent. is held on a produce rent. Under-raiyats hold only 156,560 acres, of which more than half pays a produce rent. The rent-rate for the cash paying portion is low, being only Rs. 1-7-11 per acre. Under-raiyats generally hold their lands for a short period only, and many of them have occupancy holdings in the village, and in addition cultivate for a year or two part of the lands of some more prosperous neighbour, who has more cultivation than he can properly look after himself.

Throughout the discussion of these statistics, I have taken the average rent-rate on the whole holding, neglecting that on the cultivated portion only. Much of the area classed as uncropped consists of valuable orchard land, the sale of the fruit from which puts much money into the raiyats' pockets, and is a valuable aid to him in paying his rent.

22. *Crop statistics.*—Statement N attached to this report has been compiled from the *milan khasras* of 1,439 villages. Of the total area of 999,335 acres, 232,059 acres or 23 per cent. are uncultivated. Of this 22,008 acres are returned as current fallow, while 125,827 acres is unculturable land consisting of old fallow, groves and jungle, and 84,223 acres are not available for cultivation, being made up of roads, rivers, tanks, and the like. 30,814 acres, or over 3 per cent. of the whole area dealt with are covered with mango orchards. Of the cultivated area of 767,275 acres, 316,258 acres or 41 per cent. bear two crops, but a considerable part of this must consist of aghani land on which the value of the rabi crop is inconsiderable. 383,001 acres or 35 per cent. bear bhadoi crops, while aghani crops cover 26 per cent. and rabi crops 39 per cent. of the total cropped area. The irrigation statistics show that only 7,655 acres are irrigated, but the statistics are obviously incomplete and inconsistent, and I do not think any importance can be attached to them. It is for instance quite a mistake to suppose that there is no irrigation of any kind in the Madhuban and Kesaria thanas. Perhaps the most notable thing about these statistics is the extent to which they show that cultivation has been pushed in the Adapur thana. Out of a total area of 115,736 acres, 98,503 or 85 per cent. is cultivated, and of the cultivated area 54 per cent. bears a bhadoi crop and 58 per cent. bears two crops. This thana is composed largely of the areaknown as Tappa Buhas which, with its rich clay soil, is famous all over Bihar for its rice, the yield per acre being frequently over 40 maunds, and the raiyats of that part are generally considered to be the best off in the district. Statement O gives the crop statements for the same area as Statement N deals with. Of the total cropped area of 767,275 acres, 376,333 or 49 per cent. bears rice. Maize, kodo, indigo and wheat come next, covering between 8 and 9 per cent. each of the total area. Opium is grown on 36,260 acres, being 4 per cent. of the total area. The prevalence of the rice crop is again noticeable in the Adapur thana, where it covers 84,693 acres, or 83 per cent. of the cropped area. Indigo appears to cover most land in the Kesaria thana, where it is grown on 17,696 acres or 14 per cent. of the cropped area. Tobacco, which in Muzaffarpur is the most valuable crop from the raiyat's point of view, is here grown on only 612 acres, and sugarcane, another very valuable crop, only covers 2,622 acres.

23. *Miscellaneous enquiries.*—The Assistant Settlement Officers engaged in attestation made many miscellaneous enquiries and collected much valuable and interesting information which has been recorded in village notes. Perhaps the most important subjects on which information was collected were those relating to patwaris, to the transfer of occupancy rights, and to the effect of partition proceedings on rents and occupancy rights.

24. *Patwaris.*—It was found that the patwari in Champaran is usually registered in the Collectorate. His connection with Government is, however, purely nominal, and he is to all intents and purposes the landlord's servant and agent in collecting rents from the raiyats, settling lands with new tenants, and generally looking after the landlord's interests. On the whole the patwari is more feared than respected in this district. His position as a nominal Government servant gives him considerable power and influence, which he too often uses to enrich himself at the expense of landlord and raiyat alike. He not infrequently collects and keeps to himself rent for land which he reports to the landlord to be uncultivated, or on the other land he collects more rent from the raiyats than he actually pays over to the landlord. One of the chief advantages of the record of rights, from the point of view of good landlords with large estates, is that it will to a large extent render them independent of the patwari for information regarding their property.

The fact that a registered patwari can only be dismissed by the Collector, and that he has the right of appeal to the Commissioner and the Board against an order of dismissal, often makes it as expensive for the landlord to get rid of an unsatisfactory patwari as to fight out an important civil suit, and many notoriously corrupt and inefficient patwaris are allowed to go on holding their appointments because the landlord knows that, unless he can produce clear evidence of dishonesty, a suit for dismissal will be unsuccessful.

Enquiries as to whether it would be possible to utilise the patwari in any way for the maintenance of the record of rights showed that any such scheme would be highly unpopular, and would to a large extent destroy the confidence felt by landlords and tenants in the record prepared by us.

25. *Transfer of holdings.*—Careful enquiries were made at attestation into the question of the transfer of occupancy rights. I have already submitted a separate report on this subject and the results need only be summarised here. They showed that out of 160,000 holdings attested, no less than 14,000 had within the past 10 years been effected in whole or in part by sales and mortgages, and that of the 14,000 purchasers no less than 40 per cent. belonged to the mahajan class, who do not themselves cultivate land, but make their chief living by money-lending and trading, and let out any land they get into their hands to raiyats to cultivate for them. From the statistics in statement M, it would not appear that they have as yet succeeded in raising rents to an excessive amount, and they are no doubt prevented from doing so by the amount of waste land which is available for cultivation in the district.

It would not be wise therefore to over-estimate the gravity of the present situation from an economic point of view; but the fact that 13 per cent. of the raiyats in the area for which statistics have been collected do not possess occupancy rights in the land they cultivate, and that the average size of their holdings is less than two acres, shows that the result of the improvidence of the Champaran raiyats is beginning to be felt, and compels many of

them to leave their native villages and start life afresh in a new place under unfavourable conditions and in much humbler circumstances than they originally enjoyed. It is probable that at present this is not too severe a penalty for their previous extravagance, but if land goes on passing into the hands of the money-lending class at the present rate, their opportunity for rack-renting and oppression will come when the population becomes more congested, and no more waste land is available for cultivation.

26. *Partition*.—It was found that partitions had had practically no effect in raising rents or destroying occupancy rights in Champaran. This was only to be expected, considering that the greater part of the district is in the hands of large proprietors, and that rents are generally low and waste land abundant. Within the past ten years partitions have taken place in only 80 villages in the district, and it was found that in only a few cases were the rent rates higher than in the surrounding villages, and then only to a slight extent, and the percentage of occupancy raiyats was in no case lower than in villages which have not undergone partition. In fact all the results of our work so far have shown that the evils from which the Champaran raiyat suffers are due, not to rack-renting or oppression on the part of his landlord, but to his own extravagance and improvidence in parting with the valuable rights which have been conferred on him for the purpose of raising money to spend on wasteful ceremony and displays beyond his means.

27. *Training of junior civilians*.—Mr. H. L. Stephenson, Assistant Magistrate and Collector of Arrah, spent about two months in this district learning settlement work. He was given instruction in khanapuri and attestation.

28. *General remarks*.—For the general smoothness and absence of friction, which characterised our work during the year, we are indebted to the valuable assistance which we have received from the landlords of the district, and especially to Mr. Lewis, Manager of the Bettiah Raj, who has always done his best to aid our work in every possible way. Our acknowledgments are also due to the Bihar Indigo Planters' Association and to its Secretary, Mr. Macnaghten, whose help has been of very great advantage to us in our dealings with the planters, who are the largest landholders in the district. Of the officers who have been employed on settlement in this district, Mr. Kerr, the Assistant Settlement Officer in charge, has given me the most invaluable assistance. He has an intimate knowledge of the district, and keeps himself in close touch with every phase of feeling in it. In questions of more general interest and importance his views are clear-headed and actuated by sound judgment and common sense. Of the Assistant Settlement Officers, some have worked more, some less efficiently, but all, I think, with zeal. Pandit Ram Ballabh Misra, Maulvi Syed Abdul Salik and Babu Harbans Sahay deserve special mention. Maulvi Syed Ahmad Ali Khan and Babu Hem Chandra Chatterjee also did well.

C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE,

Settlement Officer.

A.—Distribution of Staff.

OFFICERS.	Work engaged on.	Period of employment.	Days on tour.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
P. C. Lyon, Esq., c. s.	Settlement Officer ...	1st October 1895 to 7th November 1895.	...	
E. G. Colvin, Esq., c. s.	Ditto ...	8th November 1895 to 8th March 1896.	56	Went on furlough.
C. J. Stevenson-Moore, Esq., c. s.	Ditto ...	9th March 1896 to 30th September 1896.	28	Was on special leave for 3 months from 7th July.
J. H. Kerr, Esq., c. s.	Assistant Settlement Officer in subordi- nate charge of the district. Onattesta- tion and khanapuri work up to March. After that in subor- dinate charge of the district.	Whole year ...	215	
Pundit Ram Bullabh Misra.	Case and office work at head-quarters.	Ditto ...	24	
Maulvi Syed Ahmed Ali Khan.	Attestation, recovery and case-work.	Ditto ...	316	
Maulvi Yusuf Ali ...	Attestation ...	11th October 1895 to 18th April 1896.	184	Reverted to general duty.
Shah Mahommed Azam.	Ditto ...	12th October 1895 to 19th February 1896.	128	Privilege leave from 20th February 1896.

A.—Distribution of Staff—concluded.

OFFICERS.	Work engaged on.	Period of employment.	Days on tour.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
Babu Heman/a Kumar Moitra.	Attestation, recovery and case-work.	13th October 1895 to end of year.	334	
Maulvi Syed Abdul Salik.	Attestation and case-work.	14th October 1895 to end of year.	328	
Babu Harbans Sahai	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	331	
„ Sarat Chundra Mukerjee.	Attestation ...	2nd November 1895 to 26th March 1896.	139	Transferred to Muzaffarpur.
Babu Hem Chandra Chatterjee.	Ditto ...	26th October 1895 to 27th April 1896.	169	Reverted to general duty.
Babu Narendra Kumar Ghosh.	Attestation and case-work.	26th October 1895 to 27th June 1896.	205	Transferred to Muzaffarpur.
Maulvi Afzalur Rah-man.	Khanapuri ...	2nd November 1895 to 2nd May 1896.	165	Reverted to general duty.
Maulvi Syed Izahar Hussain.	Khanapuri and attestation.	31st October 1895 to 22nd April 1896.	166	Ditto.
Babu Suresh Chundra Chakravarty.	Khanapuri ...	1st November 1895 to 26th May 1896.	154	Ditto.
Maulvi Syed Ali Ashraf.	Khanapuri and attestation; also in charge of Computation Department.	31st October 1895 to 1st April 1896.	69	Transferred to Muzaffarpur. Leave on medical certificate from 16th December 1895 to 14th January 1896.

B.—Return of Khanapuri Work in Champaran for the year ending 30th September 1896.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER EMPLOYED.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH KHANAPURI WORK WAS COMPLETED.				Number of villages of which khanapuri is going on but is incomplete.	Number of villages inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of amins inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of plots of which the khasra entries were tested during the year.	REMARKS.
				Up to end of the previous year.		During the year.						
				Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
District Totals	Champaran ...	2,801	3,265	1,754	2,080	1,047	1,185	Nil.	540	542	10,251	
Details of year's work.												
Maulvi Afzalur Rahaman...	1	356	} 561	.....	.....	356	} 561	Nil.	180	180	4,060	
„ Syed Izahar Hus-	2	210				210			166	166	2,758	
„ Babu Suresh Ch. Chakra-	3	241	} 624	.....	.....	241	} 624	Nil.	137	137	2,774	
varti.	4	240				240			57	59	659	
J. H. Kerr, Esq., C.s. ...												
Total ...	.....	1,047	1,185	.....	.....	1,047	1,185	Nil.	540	542	10,251	

C.—Return of Boundary Disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF.			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
	To the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
District totals ...	479	509	988	475	513	988	Nil	37	37	34	1	2	
Details of year's work.													
Maulvi Syed Ahmed Ali Khan.	4	.....	4	.....	4	4	Nil	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Maulvi Afzalur Rahman.	.....	281	281	.....	185	185	Nil	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Maulvi Syed Izahar Hussain.					96	96	Nil	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Babu Suresh Chandra Chakravarti.					131	131	Nil	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
J. H. Kerr, Esq., C.S.					97	97	Nil	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	4	509	513	Nil	513	513	Nil	37	37	34	1	2	

D.—Return of Attestation Work, including final publication of Records.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	Number of villages for which records have been received from the Survey Department.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.				NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT PUBLISHED.		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED.		REMARKS.
					Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
District Total ...	Champaran	2,801	3,265	2,801	679	939	142,491	828,511	1,075	1,162	193,611	1,358,793	622	632	306	372	
Details of year's work.																	
Maulvi S. A. Salik ...	Camp A ...	166	184	166	...	...	...	...	166	184	26,935	174,038	...	78	...	...	
Babu H. C. Chatterjee ...	" B ...	129	161	129	...	...	...	...	129	161	24,214	155,508	...	44	...	...	
Babu N. K. Ghose ...	" C ...	113	136	113	...	...	...	...	113	136	23,266	142,751	...	76	...	...	
Syed Ali Ashraf ...	" D ...	83	111	83	...	...	...	...	83	111	15,132	...	...	...	...	...	
Maulvi Ahmed Ali Khan.	" E ...	89	109	89	...	...	...	...	89	109	19,614	155,392	...	54	...	...	
Babu H. K. Maitra ...	" F ...	166	129	166	...	...	...	...	159	129	24,357	158,581	...	34	...	...	
J. H. Kerr, Esq., C.S.	" G ...	161	102	161	...	...	...	...	161	102	25,601	152,308	...	102	...	...	
Maulvi Shah Muhammad Azam.	" H ...	73	116	73	...	...	...	...	73	116	16,161	125,106	...	38	...	...	
Syed Izahar Hussain	" J ...	105	114	105	...	...	...	...	105	114	18,331	141,968	...	56	...	...	
Maulvi Yusuf Ali ...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	371
Babu S. C. Mukerji ...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Babu Harbans Sahai ...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
In area attested in the field season of 1894-95.	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
In area attested in the field season of 1893-94.	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total ...	.....	1,075	1,162	1,075	...	...	...	...	1,075	1,162	193,611	1,358,793	622	632	306	372	

E.—Return of Cases under Section 104 of the Tenancy Act for Settlement of Fair Rents.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Area of circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF CASES INSTITUTED.			NUMBER OF CASES DISPOSED OF.			NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED.			Former rental of tenants included in column 12.	New rental settled for tenants in column 12.	NUMBER OF DECISIONS APPEALED AGAINST TO SPECIAL JUDGE.			NUMBER OF APPEALS DECIDED.			NUMBER OF DECISIONS OF REVENUE OFFICER AS IN COLUMN 20—			REMARKS.
			To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.			To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
District Totals ...	Champaran.	2,080	551	1,425	1,976	545	1,029	1,574	35,001	34,633	69,634	623,109	681,426	61	64	125	23	1	24	15	6	3	
Details of year's work.																							
J. H. Kerr, Esq., C.S.		...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	776	776	8,220	8,546	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pundit R. B. Misser		...	...	...	...	...	...	156	...	6,156	6,156	60,332	54,398	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
M. Syed A. A. Khan		...	...	...	...	...	...	275	...	9,162	9,162	111,297	120,297	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Babu Harbans Sahai		...	...	...	...	...	...	334	...	8,459	8,459	74,491	79,879	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syed Abdul Salik ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	119	...	6,677	6,677	87,400	93,081	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Babu H. K. Maitra		...	...	...	...	...	...	97	...	1,492	1,492	11,427	12,584	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" N. K. Ghose ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	43	...	1,911	1,911	26,199	28,774	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
.....		...	...	...	...	...	...	1,029	1,029	...	34,633	34,633	369,366	398,762	61	64	125	23	1	24	15	6	3

F.—Return of Objections under Section 105 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Nature of case.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF.			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
		Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
											Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
District Totals	(1) Objections heard and considered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act.	4,074	4,126	8,200	3,371	3,971	7,342	858	...	...	...	...	...	
Details of year's work.														
J. H. Kerr, Esq., C.S. Pundit R. B. Misra Syed Ahmed Ali Khan Babu Harbans Sahai Babu H. K. Maitra Maulvi Abdul Salik	.....	4,074	4,126	8,200	...	{	259	259	...	...	...	...	...	...
							2,349	2,349	...	...	...	...	...	
							1,179	1,179	...	...	...	...	...	
							20	20	...	...	...	...	A.	
							155	155	...	...	...	...	...	
						9	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	4,074	4,126	8,200	...	5,971	5,971	...	...	...	...	...	...	

G.—Return of Disputes under Section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Nature of case.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF.			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
		Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
											Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
District Totals ...	.....	566	393	959	558	322	880	79	42	5	2	3	Nil.	
Details of year's work.														
E. G. Colvin, Esq., C.S.	(2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	566	393	959	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
J. H. Kerr, Esq., C.S.						2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pundit R. B. Misra						319	319	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...		566	393	959	...	322	322	79	42	5	2	3	Nil.	

H.—Statement showing the grounds of enhancement of rent for the year ending 30th September 1896.

OFFICER.	Number of raiyats whose rents settled column 11.	Former rent.	Present rent.	SECTION 52.				SECTION 30.		Total increase.	Total percentage.
				Increase.	Percentage.	Decrease.	Percentage.	Increase.	Percentage.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
J. H. Kerr, Esq., C.S.	776	Rs. 8,220	Rs. 8,546	Rs. 326	3.9	Rs.	.....	Rs.	.....	Rs. 326	3.9
Pundit R. B. Misra	6,156	50,332	54,968	4,600	9.5	134	.62	.....	.....	4,616	9.2
Maulvi S. A. Ali Khan	9,162	1,11,297	1,20,207	9,016	8.1	16	.001	.....	.....	9,000	8.09
Babu Harbans Sahai	8,459	74,291	79,879	5,415	7.3	45	.06	18	.002	5,388	7.2
Maulvi Abdul Salik	6,677	87,400	93,684	6,324	7.2	40	.004	.....	.....	6,284	7.1
Babu H. K. Maitra	1,492	11,427	12,584	1,134	9.9	.....	.....	23	.62	1,157	10.3
" N. K. Ghose	1,911	26,199	28,774	2,547	9.7	.....	.....	23	.01	2,575	9.8
Total	34,633	3,69,366	3,98,762	29,562	8.03	235	.006	69	.002	29,396	.9

J.—Financial Statement.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment (against each sub-head).	Expenditure to end of the previous year (against each sub-head).	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Pay and special allowance of—				
Settlement Officer	6,865 0 0	44,274 2 0	11,041 7 0	
Assistant Settlement Officers	35,300 0 0	15,884 3 5	37,916 14 9	
2. Fixed establishment	4,010 0 0	2,337 8 5	2,871 10 0	
3. Temporary establishment	18,197 8 0	18,877 6 6	32,035 15 8	
4. Contract and job work	15,120 0 0	9,001 12 2	11,817 2 11	
5. Travelling allowance—				
Of officers	10,935 0 0	4,772 4 1	11,049 4 4	
Of establishment	3,182 8 0	11,113 6 6	174 11 0	
6. Supplies and services—				
Forms	950 0 0	.....	247 3 5	
Tents	750 0 0	5,835 4 0	1,261 8 0	
Petty construction	100 0 0	4,441 12 0	197 0 0	
" repairs	200 0 0	.....	120 10 0	
7. Contingencies—				
Hot-weather charges	150 0 0	5,645 14 2	117 3 9	
Office rent	.....		.....	
Service telegrams	150 0 0		94 8 0	
" postage charges	325 0 0	3,631 0 5	293 12 0	
&c. &c. &c.	3,765 0 0		11,863 1 4	
	1,00,000 0 0	1,27,814 9 8	1,21,162 0 2	

K.—Statement showing progress made in recovering costs of Survey and Settlement under Section 114 of the Tenancy Act during the year ending 30th September 1896.

DIVISION.	District.	Name of estate.	Total amount due from each class interested.	REALISATIONS FROM EACH CLASS INTERESTED.				Steps taken for the realisation of the balance.	REMARKS.
				Up to end of preceding year.	During period under report.	Total (columns 5 and 6).	Balance (column 4 minus column 7).		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Patna ...	Champaran ...	Champaran ...	Proprietors ...	Rs. 31,336	Nil	Rs. 643	Rs. 543	Rs. 30,843	These sums will be collected as soon as the accounts of the advances made to the Survey Department are adjusted. Certificates are being issued for this amount.
			Tenure-holders ...	29,019	Nil	293	293	28,720	
			Raiyats ...	36,973	Nil	37,912	37,912	1,739	
			Rent-free holders ...	2,797	Nil				

L.—Abstract Statement showing the status and rent of tenants for the 931 villages in Statement M2.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LANDS.					REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class.	Average area of cultivated lands per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per cultivated acre.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Proprietors' private lands ...	179	1,779	9.9	Rs. A. P.		
2. Held by proprietors, but not proprietors' private lands.	864	7,934	9.2			
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders.	4,522	35,850	7.4			
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents	1,183	10,103	8.5	13,288 14 6	1 5 1	The area on produce rent has been included.
5. Settled and occupancy raiyats ...	94,686	380,808	4.01	7,35,594 13 6	1 14 11	Ditto ditto.
6. Non-occupancy raiyats ...	14,303	18,139	1.3	47,141 8 3	2 9 6	Ditto ditto.
7. Rent-free holders ...	6,718	11,340	1.9			
8. Under-raiyats ...	12,945	6,240	.8	11,695 11 8	1 14 0	
Total ...	134,520	470,273	3.5	8,07,720 16 5	1 14 6	

M.—Statistical statement of status and

NAME OF THANA.	Number of villages for which statistics have been prepared.	PROPRIETORS' PRIVATE LANDS.				IN THE CULTIVATING POSSESSION OF THE PROPRIETOR, BUT NOT PRIVATE LANDS.				CULTIVATED BY TENURE-HOLDERS (INCLUDING UNDER-TENURE-HOLDERS).			
		Number of holdings.	Cropped area.	Uncropped area.	Total area.	Number of holdings.	Cropped area.	Uncropped area.	Total area.	Number of holdings.	Cropped area.	Uncropped area.	Total area.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Bettiah	309	36	384'12	16'83	400'95	158	1,818'59	279'50	2,098'9	1,388	13,531'1	2,259'98	15,790'99
Motihari	195	14	40'65	...	40'65	78	1,626'67	40'37	1,667'4	389	7,107'39	321'59	7,428'98
Gobindgunge	188	...	...	...	...	192	1,556'69'5	97'67	1,654'39'5	2,240	8,837'68'5	462'50	9,300'18'5
Kesaria	100	17	31'42	...	31'42	116	576'35	11'66'5	588'1'5	291	2,311'61'8	37'14	2,348'75'8
Adapur	29	...	...	...	...	32	415'73	2'23	418'1	10	125'38	...	125'38
Madhuban	50	3	216'15	...	216'15	140	1,071'60'1	20'95'1	1,092'55'2	59	608'3'5	...	608'3'5
Dhaka	34	91	707'28'3	36'43	743'71'2	125	725'41'5	...	725'41'5	53	189'77	...	189'77
Hardi	26	18	399'32	...	399'32	23	193'32	7'96	201'28	92	1,169'19	...	1,169'19
Total	931	179	1,778'94'2	53'26	1,832'20'2	864	7,984'37'1	460'39'6	8,444'76'7	4,522	33,880'7'8	3,081'21	36,961'28'8

NAME OF THANA.	NON-OCCUPANCY RAIYATS (INCLUDING DEARA RAIYATS).								RENT-FREE HOLDINGS.			
	Number of holdings.	Cropped area cash paying and rent-free.	Uncropped area cash paying and rent-free.	Total area cash paying and rent-free.	Area on produce rent.	Total cash rent.	Rate of rent per cropped acre cash paying and rent-free.	Rate of rent per acre of the whole holdings, excluding area on produce rent.	Number of holdings.	Cropped area.	Uncropped area.	Total area.
	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41
Bettiah	9,412	12,630'49	2,785'73	15,316'22	2,405'26	Rs. A. P. 27,759 7 2	Rs. A. P. 2 3 5	Rs. A. P. 1 13 0	1,807	4,671'96	1,196'72	5,870'68
Motihari	2,216	2,252'68	350'49	2,603'17	1,254'46	5,044 11 7	2 3 10	1 15 0	1,107	2,371'35	592'19	2,963'54
Gobindgunge	1,719	2,232'65	514'6	2,746'71	557'22	11,499 4 9	5 2 4	4 2 11	1,560	2,318'78	833'92	3,152'68
Kesaria	626	720'51'5	50'52	771'3'5	139'58	1,633 3 0	2 4 3	2 1 11	610	981'3'5	165'46'5	1,146'50
Adapur	83	63'12	3'19	66'31	77'58	190 11 3	3 0 5	2 14 3	47	113'50	6'15	119'65
Madhuban	111	143'64'5	2'25'1	145'89'6	11'38'5	457 10 3	3 2 10	3 2 2	167	211'11	29'75	240'86
Dhaka	47	40'1	1'70	41'71	6'52'5	142 8 9	3 9 2	3 6 3	341	423'63'5	79'0'5	502'64
Hardi	189	156'8	3'83	159'91	185'91	413 15 6	2 10 5	2 9 4	89	188'62	12'	200'62
Total	14,303	18,139'19	3,711'77'1	21,850'96'1	4,637'90	47,141 8 3	2 9 6	2 2 7	5,718	11,339'97	2,922'20	14,262'17

rent as entered in the record of rights.

RAIYATS AT FIXED RATES OR RENTS.							SETTLED RAIYATS AND OCCUPANCY RAIYATS.							
Number of holdings.	Cropped area.	Uncropped area.	Total area.	Total cash rent.	Rate of rent per cropped area.	Rate of rent per area for whole holdings.1	Number of holdings.	Cropped area cash paying and rent-free.	Uncropped area cash paying and rent-free.	Total area cash paying and rent-free.	Area on produce rent.	Total cash rent.	Rate of rent per cropped acre cash paying and rent-free.	Rate of rent per acre of the whole holdings, excluding area on produce rent.
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.						Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
394	3,551'29	842'96	4,394'25	4,491 11 0	1 4 3	1 0 5	15,091	152,206'25	18,056'44	170,262'69	4,791'5	2,51,875 10 10	1 10 6	1 7 8
108	1,456'48	2,223'27	3,678'74	1,566 5 9	1 1 3	0 6 10	21,876	83,675'26	11,932'11	95,607'37	5,748'85	1,74,004 11 11	2 1 3	1 13 1
172	1,561'29	291'44	1,852'73	1,563 3 3	1 0 0	0 13 6	2,565	73,746'75'9	10,992'95	84,739'70'9	5,598'10'5	1,47,545 11 0	2 0 0	1 11 11
411	3,055'84	311'85'1	3,367'29'1	4,547 11 3	1 7 10	1 5 7	11,453	34,374'97'6	2,775'10'9	37,150' 8'5	1,133'27'8	52,818 3 0	1 8 6	1 4 6
1	7'21	...	7'21	2 14 6	0 6 5	0 6 5	2,385	7,335'1	288'85	7,623'86	729'52	23,532 0 0	3 3 4	3 1 4
23	125'30'5	8'65	133'95'5	634 2 3	5 1 0	4 11 9	4,633	9,352'32'6	714' 0'1	10,066'32'7	233'61	29,448 1 9	3 2 6	2 14 8
15	129'26	42'69'5	171'95'5	316 14 9	2 7 3	1 13 6	3,710	9,950'78'2	785'82'6	10,736'60'8	277' 2'5	32,776 4 6	3 4 8	2 0 10
59	217'74	12'9	229'83	165 15 9	0 12 3	0 11 7	3,113	10,166'92	559'21	10,726'13	870' 1	23,594 2 0	2 5 2	2 3 2
1,183	10,108'21'5	3,732'74'6	13,835'96'1	13,288 14 6	1 5 1	0 15 4	94,806	330,808'28'3	46,104'49'6	426,912'77'9	19,379'44'8	7,35,594 13 0	1 14 11	1 11 6

UNOCCUPIED LANDS.		KAISER-I-HIND.	Total area of the villages.	UNDER-RAIYATS.								REMARKS.
Number of holdings.	Total area.			Number of holdings.	Cropped area cash paying and rent-free.	Uncropped area cash paying and rent-free.	Total area cash paying and rent-free.	Area on produce rent.	Total cash rent.	Rate of rent per cropped acre cash paying and rent-free.	Rate of rent per acre on whole holdings excluding area on produce rent.	
42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54
986	53,820'49	1,143'32	276,293'99	5,521	3,135'59	1,198'27	4,333'86	3,005'45	Rs. A. P. 5,639 0 11	Rs. A. P. 1 12 9	Rs. A. P. 1 0 11	
478	27,201'25	1,171' 4	149,363' 9	2,146	975'10	100'70	1,075'80	1,716'30	1,064 0 6	1 1 8	0 15 10	
1,783	29,395'40	569'21	139,561'31'4	3,248	1,592'10	142'8	1,734'18	1,865'77	3,720 13 0	2 5 4	2 2 4	
355	4,927'14'4	311'06'2	51,925' 4'8	1,023	331'11	22'61'5	403'72'5	481'30'5	556 9 9	2 3 11	2 1 11	
41	1,130'54	163'43	10,451'79	76	5'73	30	6'3	99'42	19 2 9	2 3 0	2 3 2	
218	2,301' 3'3	92'39	15,042'19'3	345	62'78	9'3	71'81	228'55'2	227 8 3	2 3 9	2 2 7	
123	1,612'42'5	41'35	15,109'13'5	292	14'36	4'81	19'17	132'54'8	47 2 0	2 5 10	2 7 8	
113	1,926'79	37' 6	16,106' 6	379	66'90	6'37	73'27	413'29	121 6 6	1 13 0	1 10 7	
4,045	122,255'37'2	3,479'76'2	673,862'61	12,945	6,233'67	1,484'17'5	7,717'84'5	7,932'63'5	11,695 11 8	1 14 0	1 7 11	

C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE,
Settlement Officer.

STATEMENT N.

Statistics of cultivation.

KHARSA PAGE.	CROPPED AREA.						CULTURABLE AREA OTHER THAN CURRENT FALLOW.						AREA NOT AVAILABLE FOR CULTIVATION.			
	Bhadol.	Aghani	Rabi.	Total	Dodash.	Net cropped area.	Current fallow.	Old fallow.	Mango groves.	Culturable jungle.	Other kinds.	Total.	House site.	Water.	Other kinds.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Thana Motihari, 108 villages.	A. D. 43,232 70	A. D. 24,397 63	A. D. 55,746 63	A. D. 123,366 91	A. D. 34,876 05	A. D. 88,520 86	A. D. 4,319 53	A. D. 14,564 12	A. D. 3,856 84	A. D. 638 36	A. D. 407 79	A. D. 19,465 11	A. D. 1,388 14	A. D. 5,919 57	A. D. 4,416 94	A. D. 11,724 65
Thana Hardi, 19 villages.	A. D. 4,694 99	A. D. 4,518 92	A. D. 5,772 57	A. D. 14,986 48	A. D. 4,886 93	A. D. 10,099 55	A. D. 79 81	A. D. 507 75	A. D. 334 33	A. D. 48 92	A. D. 48 32	A. D. 989 93	A. D. 122 61	A. D. 368 65	A. D. 296 11	A. D. 782 37
Thana Adapur, 187 villages.	A. D. 53,850 56	A. D. 38,563 34	A. D. 63,928 58	A. D. 156,342 48	A. D. 57,838 69	A. D. 98,503 79	A. D. 764 50	A. D. 4,756 64	A. D. 2,565 01	A. D. 489 59	A. D. 521 96	A. D. 8,323 20	A. D. 1,322 13	A. D. 3,383 93	A. D. 3,439 25	A. D. 8,145 31
Thana Gobindgunge, 148 villages.	A. D. 33,613 72	A. D. 21,086 24	A. D. 30,780 61	A. D. 86,000 57	A. D. 22,032 98	A. D. 64,057 59	A. D. 1,744 09	A. D. 9,103 07	A. D. 2,992 76	A. D. 184 74	A. D. 1,608 63	A. D. 13,889 21	A. D. 894 46	A. D. 2,473 27	A. D. 4,550 87	A. D. 7,918 68
Thana Kesaria, 223 villages.	A. D. 60,305 24	A. D. 44,944 87	A. D. 56,012 35	A. D. 161,263 47	A. D. 32,896 72	A. D. 128,366 74	A. D. 3,510 57	A. D. 8,980 64	A. D. 5,550 02	A. D. 377 33	A. D. 1,620 20	A. D. 15,538 21	A. D. 1,672 18	A. D. 4,357 89	A. D. 7,189 41	A. D. 13,188 97
Thana Dhaka, 202 villages.	A. D. 66,797 84	A. D. 50,270 27	A. D. 89,407 33	A. D. 206,475 45	A. D. 67,397 44	A. D. 139,078 00	A. D. 2,213 90	A. D. 8,067 19	A. D. 5,807 71	A. D. 667 42	A. D. 803 39	A. D. 15,365 72	A. D. 1,860 91	A. D. 5,554 30	A. D. 4,054 34	A. D. 11,499 56
Thana Bettiah, 302 villages.	A. D. 98,184 56	A. D. 72,459 60	A. D. 86,777 65	A. D. 257,401 81	A. D. 71,755 77	A. D. 185,646 04	A. D. 8,519 42	A. D. 32,967 27	A. D. 8,750 10	A. D. 3,307 20	A. D. 1,392 55	A. D. 46,417 12	A. D. 4,570 37	A. D. 10,535 62	A. D. 9,892 99	A. D. 24,998 98
Thana Madhuban, 190 villages.	A. D. 22,301 59	A. D. 21,859 32	A. D. 33,437 08	A. D. 77,578 0	A. D. 21,373 78	A. D. 56,004 21	A. D. 847 78	A. D. 3,322 64	A. D. 1,907 49	A. D. 157 24	A. D. 451 26	A. D. 5,838 69	A. D. 761 07	A. D. 2,937 96	A. D. 2,205 98	A. D. 5,965 02
Total villages 1,439 ..	383,001 21	278,670 19	421,862 76	1,083,534 18	316,233 38	767,275 80	22,008 67	82,279 34	30,814 88	5,878 81	6,854 11	125,897 14	12,691 89	32,525 76	36,105 91	84,223 57

NAME OF THANA.	Total unculti- vated, columns, 8, 13 and 17.	Total area, columns 7 and 18.	Irrigated area.	IRRIGATED AREA AND HOW IRRIGATED.					DETAILS OF IRRIGATED AREA AS REGARDS CROPS.						NUMBER OF WELLS.		REMARKS.
				Irrigated from wells.	Irrigated from Gov. ernment canals.	Irrigated from private canals.	Irrigated from tanks and others.	Irrigated from other sources.	Rice.	Wheat.	Other cereals and pulses.	Other food- crops.	Non-food- crops.	Masonry.	Earthen.		
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	
Thana Motihari, 168 villages.	A. D. 35,609 34	A. D. 124,030 20	A. D. 506 44	A. D. 53 71	A. D.	A. D. 15 89	A. D. 282 0	A. D. 171 03	A. D. 143 09	A. D. 2 13	A. D. 96 60	A. D. 7 57	A. D. 450 97	Number. 230	Number. 10		
Thana Hardi, 19 villages.	A. D. 1,853 10	A. D. 11,951 65	A. D. 433 64	A. D. 18 13	A. D. 46 59	A. D. 345 99	A. D. 19 58	A. D. 123 55	A. D. 0 78	A. D. 1 16	A. D. 30 63	A. D. 0 37	A. D. 183 64	96	1		
Thana Adapur, 187 villages.	A. D. 17,233 61	A. D. 115,736 80	A. D. 4,104 30	A. D. 698 13	A. D. 398 81	A. D. 180 28	A. D. 2,006 98	A. D. 1,107 45	A. D. 693 62	A. D. 39 69	A. D. 717 46	A. D. 304 10	A. D. 3,130 89	851	74		
Thana Gobindgunge, 148 villages.	A. D. 23,551 99	A. D. 87,609 55	A. D. 62 26	A. D. 40 57	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D. 11 23	A. D. 9 51	A. D. 26 12	A. D. 5 14	204	10		
Thana Kesaria, 223 villages.	A. D. 32,246 79	A. D. 157,613 54	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	1,298	97		
Thana Dhaka, 202 villages.	A. D. 29,079 20	A. D. 168,167 20	A. D. 2,381 70	A. D. 111 64	A. D.	A. D. 219 56	A. D. 1,069 28	A. D. 996 05	A. D. 29 60	A. D. 98 33	A. D. 167 67	A. D. 151 87	A. D. 1,691 87	1,110	84		
Thana Bettiah, 302 villages.	A. D. 79,935 52	A. D. 268,581 56	A. D. 146 97	A. D. 692 06	A. D. 23 36	A. D. 40 39	A. D. 41 51	A. D. 19 90	A. D. 8 56	A. D. 14 05	A. D. 55 93	A. D. 10 51	A. D. 23 65	98	24		
Thana Madhuban, 190 villages.	A. D. 12,651 45	A. D. 68,655 67	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	447	.....		
Total villages 1,439 ..	232,069 39	999,336 19	7,655 31	1,519 29	375 76	782 0	3,409 05	2,417 96	875 65	226 69	1,076 19	560 84	5,486 16	4,324	300		

STATEMENT O.

Crop Statement.

NAME OF THANA.	CEREALS AND PULSE.										OILSEEDS.					SUGAR.		FIBRES.				
	Rice.	Wheat.	Barley.	Jowar (millet).	Bajra (millet).	Mandua.	Maiz.	Gram.	Kodo.	Sama.	Other grains, including pulses.	Linseed.	Til or linelly.	Sarro.	Others.	SUGAR.		Cotton.	Jute.	Moonj.	Others.	
																Sugarcane.	Others.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Thana Mothari, 168 villages.	A. D. 34,021 44	A. D. 5,865 41	A. D. 21,036 81	A. D. 79 86	A. D. 60 33	A. D. 431 97	A. D. 8,292 60	A. D. 1,319 28	A. D. 10,789 97	A. D. 1,317 23	A. D. 14,172 06	A. D. 3,730 01	A. D. 301 51	A. D. 242 50	A. D. 290 74	A. D. 217 71	A. D. 101 41	A. D. ...	A. D. 137 43	A. D. 19 73	A. D. 45 99	A. D. 31 47
Hardi, 19 villages.	8,157 62	717 40	1,079 43	43 68	2 98	65 01	210 15	649 98	338 0	10 44	1,132 58	590 11	0 54	181 79	42 44	7 33	11 97	...	0 58	...	0 06	A. D. 4
Adapur, 187 villages.	84,603 52	5,506 70	19,896 37	43 68	33 88	2,296 91	1,163 08	5,123 03	2,517 28	1,541 87	18,969 29	4,874 03	45 71	43 82	223 93	102 92	16 91	...	1 77	2 46	58 60	4... 26
Golnigrunge, 143 villages.	23,333 46	5,144 63	10,464 54	47 12	16 53	418 14	9,138 31	55 44	9,393 68	1,380 67	6,335 25	2,574 12	577 54	150 30	127 89	63 22	18 56	0 60	100 26	44 19	253 09	70 66
Kesaria, 223 villages.	39,331 68	11,537 24	16,546 18	109 94	105 21	865 02	18,250 26	319 36	17,786 46	2,102 35	15,115 01	3,719 89	368 3	456 56	430 06	333 39	511 09	12 95	411 07	12 14	140 93	5 67
Dhaka, 293 villages.	78,922 88	6,981 96	30,112 63	54 71	41 49	3,102 87	7,454 81	6,397 86	1,117 93	207 20	28,073 51	5,036 73	41 21	59 03	249 83	183 58	148 99	1 57	15 0	6 40	149 33	10 07
Bharin, 362 villages.	80,539 83	30,393 96	23,146 30	4,535 16	3,530 23	4,454 30	18,618 85	3,382 93	14,784 07	6,211 21	16,538 57	4,068 51	3,565 09	1,942 95	1,732 20	1,849 65	1,601 17	196 68	994 35	315 95	103 43	677 54
Madhuan, 130 villages.	19,384 50	3,150 27	10,420 20	133 83	31 45	160 75	7,488 16	91 80	4,742 62	77 59	14,585 23	2,296 11	72 43	291 12	278 64	452 88	60 30	0 34	29 45	6 29	113 03	12 69
Total villages 1,430	376,333 73	50,385 11	133,302 26	5,003 33	3,531 36	11,875 67	70,645 24	17,309 80	71,500 03	13,049 39	112,484 51	26,888 53	5,540 71	6,565 08	5,375 73	5,779 19	3,623 40	211 84	1,749 91	407 17	900 51	812 36

[illegible]

APPENDIX IX(iii).

SARAN—ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER 1896.

1. *Notifications.*—Operations were extended to the parganas of Bara and Andar and parts of the parganas of Narhan and Bal by a notification, No. 9534T.R., published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 16th October 1895. It is proposed in future to follow thana boundaries in drawing up the khanapuri programmes as much as possible. Up to this time the whole of the thanas of Mirganj and Sewan and parts of Gopalganj and Basantpur have been brought under survey-settlement.

2. *Programme.*—The programme of work for the year was—

- (1) Cadastral survey and record-writing in 668 square miles.
- (2) Completion of case-work and final publication of the records of the villages in 487 square miles in which khanapuri had been completed during 1893-94.

3. *Staff of officers and distribution of work.*—Mr. Lyon was in charge of the operations in this district up to the 8th November 1895, when Mr. Colvin reverted from the general line and relieved him. On the 8th of March 1896, Mr. Colvin made over charge to me before proceeding on furlough.

Mr. Gauntlett was in subordinate charge of the district during the year, except from the 16th August to the 29th September 1896, during which period he was on privilege leave; Mr. Kerr, Assistant Settlement Officer, in charge Champaran, acting for him in addition to his own duties.

From the 16th June to the 15th July 1896 Mr. Gauntlett officiated for Mr. Hughes as Assistant Settlement Officer in charge of Muzaffarpur, while the latter was on privilege leave, in addition to his own duties. In statement A is given full information as to the staff employed under the Settlement Officer during the past year, the work upon which, and the period for which, each officer was employed, and the number of days he was on tour. Maulvi Gholam Ghous was out more than 300 days. I visited the district three times, and inspected both the khanapuri officers.

4. *Record-writing.*—The cadastral survey and record-writing within an area of 668 square miles was completed during the field season.

One survey camp was entrusted with the work, but it opened with as many as 270 amins and 22 Inspectors. As was anticipated, the work was the most complicated and difficult yet undertaken in Bihar. Within the 668 square miles there were 1,235 villages and 1,306,615 plots. Thus the average size of each village was 346·28 acres, and of each plot ·32 acres only.

Owing to the complexity of rights, the great subdivision of holdings, and the minuteness of the plots, the survey staff was found to be incapable of completing the work, and was reinforced by 10 inspectors and 64 amins from Champaran. Even then the work was not completed until the 10th of May 1896.

Instructions had been issued that survey and record-writing should proceed *pari passu*, and this is particularly necessary to ensure uniformly good work where the programme is very heavy. Mr. MacHatton, who was in charge of the camp, does not appear at first to have recognized what a formidable programme of work he had before him, and unfortunately allowed the record-writing to get into arrears, with the result that it was "rushed" at the end. Orders have been issued and arrangements made that special attention shall be paid to the attestation of the records of those villages which were khanapuried during April, May, and June.

5. The area was split up into two circles, and Maulavi Syed Abul Fazil and Babu Revati Mohan Chakravarti were posted as Assistant Settlement Officers in charge of them, but neither of them gave me satisfaction. Only a few more than half the villages in the area were visited, and Mr. Gauntlett himself visited nearly one-third of them: 13,109 disputes were decided. Figures of the number filed have not been furnished, but I know the balance remaining is a very formidable one, and might have been reduced had the khanapuri Assistant Settlement Officers displayed more energy and activity. As no attestation was in progress in Saran, Mr. Gauntlett was able to devote much of his time to khanapuri supervision in addition to inspection, and he got through as much work as the two assistants who were entirely engaged in it.

6. The triplicate parcha form was introduced and used for all villages (except those in 22 square miles which had been surveyed, but of which the records had not been written, in 1893-94), and the khanapuri rules were revised and brought into accordance with it. The experiment may be considered an entire success. Under orders recently received, it is sufficient to enter two boundaries in the landlord's and raiyat's parchas. This implies a great economy of labour, and now the use of the triplicate parcha will retard to but a small extent the work in the field, whereas it removes the landlord's greatest and most reasonable grievance that before attestation they had no means of knowing what entries had been made.

7. In accordance with the orders of Government contained in letter No. 3301L R., dated the 12th July 1895, from the Secretary to the Government of Bengal to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, the extraction of areas in the field was tried experimentally in two

This was especially unfortunate as, acting on my experience in Muzaffarpur, I had arranged with Captain Crichton, before the season commenced, for a plan of operations which would avoid all undue hurry at the end. But these directions were not attended to in time with the result described.

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of the inspection circles in Saran. This has formed the subject of a separate report. I need only mention here that both the Survey and Settlement Departments have reported that it is impracticable for the following reasons:—

- (1) The areas are less correctly calculated, and this entails very considerable extra labour in each department.
- (2) Its introduction must entail an additional expense of 10 per cent. to the Survey Department, and a loss upon the work in Saran and Darbhanga of from Rs. 35,000 to Rs. 65,000.
- (3) Its introduction might disorganize the whole scheme of the working of the Survey Department.

8. Mr. Gauntlett reports that the smallest subdivision of proprietary rights generally recognised in the district is one *bhag*, which is $\frac{1}{16}$ of a rupee, but in some places they recognise 1 *til*, which is $\frac{1}{32}$ of a rupee. Addition to the extreme minuteness of rights to which I have referred, the very large number of disputes has served to enhance the difficulties of the work, and for a very large number of these the landlords are themselves responsible. The Chainpur Babus, who are the most important zamindars in the district after the Hatwa Raj, have set the smaller proprietors a very bad example in this respect. Longstanding quarrels amongst themselves have induced each of them to adopt every means, however discreditable, to gain some advantage from our operations at the expense of his co-proprietors. False claims have been made, and false evidence suborned to substantiate them. The Khujwa Mians are but little better, and both they and the Chainpur Babus have made dishonest attempts to oust their raiyats by means of our record. Mr Gauntlett by his vigilance has succeeded in largely nullifying their attempts, but a special note has been made of all these villages, and attestation in them will be subjected to the closest supervision.

9. *Boundary disputes*.—Seven hundred and sixty-five boundary disputes were instituted during the field season, and all have been decided. Some of the disputes were not handed over to the Settlement Department until June, long after the Assistant Settlement Officers had left the field. Sixty-one appeals have been lodged, of which 39 have been decided. In only 4 cases has the Original Court's decision been upset. Of the remaining appeals, 13 are pending further enquiry by the Original Court, a very large number, for which I hardly think the Assistant Settlement Officers are altogether responsible. These reinvestigations hamper our work very much. Maulavi Syed Abdul Fazil decided 358 disputes. Babu Revati Mohan Chakravarti 305, and Mr. Gauntlett 95.

Most of the disputes related to a road or little piece of waste land between the villages. Nearly all the important ones involving more than 20 acres of land were decided by Mr. Gauntlett himself.

10. I have submitted for consideration the question whether, now that the various settlements have been amalgamated so that the Settlement Officer himself tries no boundary cases, and the special circumstances under which it was at first ordered that appeals in these boundary cases should be heard by the Collectors no longer exist, it would not be desirable to introduce the procedure which the Survey Act of 1875 seems to contemplate, and direct that the appeals should lie to the Settlement Officer. The revision of boundaries found at attestation to have been wrongly demarcated would be much facilitated by the change. The matter is still pending.

11. *Attestation*.—As no fresh area had been surveyed in Saran in 1894-95 no attestation was done.

12. *Case-work, section 104*.—The very heavy file of case-work under section 104 in the Hatwa Raj villages attested in 1894-95 has now very nearly been cleared. During this year 465 new cases were instituted, making a grand total of 3,344 cases: 1,385 have been disposed of during the year, and 72 are now pending. Rents have been raised from Rs. 2,25,414 to Rs. 2,54,415, i.e., 12·86 per cent.; 1·9 per cent. of the enhancement has been given under section 30 and 12·12 per cent. under section 52. Rents have been decreased by 1·12 per cent. Maulavi Ghulam Ghous has been employed on case-work all the year, and has done uniformly good work throughout. Munshi Nandji was engaged upon it until the 15th of April 1896, when he went on leave. He has since reverted to general duty. He was replaced by Babu Atul Chandra Kerr, who was temporarily transferred to Saran on the 7th June 1896.

13. But little has to be added to the discussion of the legal aspects of section 104 work set forth in former reports. The decision of the High Court in the case of the Maharani of Bettiah *versus* Pathi Koeri and others, has considerably strengthened the hands of the Settlement Officers with regard to the acceptance of compromises, and it has been closely followed

Dealt with in former reports at length. The law will, I hope, soon be amended on this point.

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letter.

14. *Draft publication*.—The records of 875 villages were pending for draft publication at the end of last year. Of these, only 8 now remain unpublished. As all the records were with the case officers, the arrangements for draft publication were left in their hands. The plan has worked satisfactorily, but constant supervision was needed.

15. *Case-work, section 105*.—Four hundred and four cases were pending at the end of last year, 9,487 cases have been instituted this year, making a grand total of 9,871. Maulavi Ghulam Ghous has been engaged almost entirely in trying them since the middle of April,

and Babu Atul Chandra Kerr since the end of August; 7,143 cases have been decided this year, leaving only 2,748 pending. The work would have been more nearly finished had it not been for the ill health of Mr. Gauntlett, which necessitated his taking six weeks' leave, and of both the case-work officers during the month of July, an exceptionally trying month throughout Bihar. Quite $\frac{3}{4}$ of the cases under section 105 were instituted by the Hutwa Raj. Mr. Gauntlett reports that 75 per cent. must have been decided against the Raj, and many more were withdrawn. The zerait question led to the institution of many which, when orders

This is a serious blot on the management of the Raj.

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were received that lands in cultivating possession of raiyats could still be zerait, were subsequently withdrawn. But apart from these, cases were often filed with very little discrimination, and the Assistant Settlement Officers did not receive all the co-operation to which they were entitled from the Raj servants in weeding them out.

16. *Section 106.*—One hundred and sixteen cases have been instituted this year, and 12 were pending from last year; of these, 22 have been decided, leaving 106 still pending. No appeals have been lodged as yet.

The only case which is of any particular interest was one dealing with the question of zerait lands in the Hutwa Raj, in which it was decided that if zerait lands were let to raiyats, without a definite lease from year to year, or for a certain number of years, occupancy rights could accrue in such lands, but that the fact of the raiyats having occupancy rights in other land in the village did not give him occupancy rights in these zerait lands, which are the subject of a different tenure analogous to an *utbandi* or *diara* holding.

The decision of the High Court regarding the court-fees leviable in these cases has made our position with reference to them still more insecure. As Mr. Gauntlett points out, had the 10,000 cases filed already in this district under section 105 been filed under section 106, they would have taken five Assistant Settlement Officers at the rate of 80 a month two years to decide, and at a cost of Rs. 40,000.

17. *Office work.*—The records of 1,033 villages containing 630,586 plots have been checked and arranged in office.

These records were attested nearly two years ago, and the delay in completing them was due to the enormous number of section 104 cases which had to be decided before the records could be completed.

It is in fact a waste of time to hurry on check in villages where the case-work is heavy, as the decisions in the cases entail constant revision of the records. Where possible, it is desirable to postpone check until section 105 work is finished, and especially the preparation of the terijes and statements of status and rent.

18. *Zerait lands.*—The difficult questions which have arisen in connection with these lands have been greatly elucidated during this year. The Advocate-General has expressed his opinion that the zerait character of land cannot be destroyed by the accrual of occupancy rights in it. The Legal Remembrancer has also expressed his opinion that the lease referred to in section 116 need not necessarily be a written one.

19. *Final publication.*—No records of the area attested in 1894-95 have been finally published this year, but the work will be started almost immediately as sufficient records are now ready.

20. *Cost.*—The sums which have been spent upon settlement operations in Saran during this year and since the work started are shown in Appendix J. The figures for the present year do not include the proportionate cost of the Department of the Director of Land Records.

The accounts for Saran have now been cleared up and separated from the Champaran accounts: Rs. 10,543-11-0 have been realized in court and process fees.

21. *Statistics of status and rent.*—Statistics of status and rent have been compiled with reference to 969 villages, and are to be found in Appendix L. In these villages only 2.0 per cent. of the area is in proprietor's private land, while 74.01 per cent. of the area is in the cultivating possession of settled raiyats, the average rate of rent paid by them being Rs. 3-14-3 per acre. The rate of rent paid by the raiyat holding at fixed rates in Gopalganj thana is extraordinarily high, Rs. 5-5-7 per acre.

I think these raiyats at fixed rates mostly hold garden lands near Gopalganj itself.

17-11-96.

P. C. L.

It is curious that in Mirganj thana the rate of rent of occupancy and non-occupancy raiyats is exactly the same. In Gopalganj the rate of rent of non-occupancy raiyats is much lower, but that may be explained by the fact that many of them are diara raiyats who pay a low rate of rent for poor land.

A special report has been submitted upon the rate of rent in the Hatwa Raj. The highest rate of rent paid in any one village is Rs. 12-1-9 per acre, and the average rate of rent in .9 per cent. of the villages was found to be more than Rs. 7 per acre; 24.8 per cent. of the villages for which statistics were compiled paid a rent of over Rs. 5 per acre.

22. *Statistics of cultivation.*—Last year statistics of 1,040 villages were given, but I am now in a position to give them for all the 1,208 villages which have been attested. Separate figures are given for each thana. In Mirganj thana, 46.1 per cent. of the net cropped area is under bhadoi crops, 24.1 per cent. under aghani crop, and 67.2 per cent. under rabi, 37.4 per cent. of the area being cropped twice. In Gopalganj thana 55.9 per cent. of the net cropped area is under bhadoi crops, 31.9 per cent. under aghani, and 64.4 per cent. under rabi, no less than 52.2 per cent. being cropped twice. Only 6.4 per cent. of the total area is unculturable.

In Mirganj 11.2 per cent., while in Gopalganj 13.9 per cent., of the total area is culturable, but uncultivated. But out of this 4.3 per cent. in Mirganj and 3.9 per cent. in

Gopalganj is under mango groves. The greater proportion of land left fallow in Gopalganj is to be explained by the fact of these being diara lands in that thana and none in Mirganj. There are 3,301 masonry wells in Mirganj and in Gopalganj 823, being 1 to each 63 acres of cropped land. There are proportionally more kutchra wells in Gopalganj however. In Mirganj 51,785 acres are irrigated, being 24·8 per cent. of the cultivated area. In Gopalganj 5,328 acres, or 10·3 per cent. of the cultivated area, is irrigated. In Mirganj tanks irrigate 27·3 per cent. of the total irrigated area, while in Gopalganj they only irrigate 11·8 per cent. Only 2·2 per cent. of the total cultivated area in Mirganj is under rice; non-food crops are responsible for 16 per cent. of the irrigated area in Mirganj and 45·2 per cent. in Gopalganj. Most of this is probably under opium.

23. *Crop statistics.*—These have also been compiled for the 1,208 villages thana by thana. In Mirganj 30·9 per cent. of the cropped area is under rice, 23·2 per cent. under barley, 31·8 per cent. under other food-grains, 5·4 per cent. under linseed, only ·2 per cent. under cotton and 1·1 per cent. under indigo, but 4 per cent. under opium. In Gopalganj 26·9 per cent. is under rice, 18·1 per cent. under barley, 21·7 per cent. under other food-grains, 12·6 per cent. under linseed, 8·6 per cent. under cotton, 6·9 per cent. under indigo, and 6·8 per cent. under opium.

24. *General remarks.*—The interest taken by the Hatwa Raj in the work has remained unabated. The only complaint I have to make is that the Raj is managed on such rigid business principles that sufficient allowance is not made for exceptional cases, with the result that it often shows a want of consideration towards its raiyats through too great a consistency of action. During operations, such as the present, a certain amount of “give and take” is necessary. The latter part of the principle is zealously enforced, the former part is at times in danger of being forgotten.

Mr. Garrett, the Assistant Magistrate and Collector of Chapra, was instructed in survey and kharapuri during the year.

Of the subordinate staff, Maulavi Ghulam Ghous is the only one deserving special mention. He did excellent work throughout the year. Babu Atul Chandra Kerr also has been of assistance in clearing off the heavy file of case-work.

Mr. Gauntlett, although often incapacitated by fever, has worked with an undaunted spirit and energy. He has an exceptionally intimate knowledge of the vernacular, and his kharapuri inspection has been most effective.

A.—Staff of officers employed.

NAME.	Work engaged on.	Period of employment.	Number of days spent on tour.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
M. F. Gauntlett, Esq., C.S.	Case-work and general supervision.	Throughout the year	63 days.	From 16th August 1896 to 29th September 1896 (on privilege leave).
Maulvi Ghulam Ghous ...	Case-work	Ditto	308 ..	From 13th February 1896 to 21st February 1896 (9 days on privilege leave).
Munshi Nandji	Ditto	1st October 1895 to 15th April 1896 ...	142 ..	
Babu Revati Mohan Chakravarti	Kharapuri	1st November 1895 to 25th May 1896 ...	193 ..	
Syed Abdul Fazil	Ditto	1st November 1895 to 18th May 1896 ...	177 ..	
Babu Atul Chandra Kerr	Case-work	7th June 1896 to the end of the year ...	65 ..	

APPENDIX C.

Annual Return of Kharapuri Work for the year ending 30th September 1896.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER EMPLOYED.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH KHANAPURI WORK WAS COMPLETED.				Number of villages of which Khanapuri is going on but is incomplete.	Number of villages inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of amins inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of plots of which the Khanapuri entries were tested during the year.	Number of disputed entries settled.	REMARKS.
				Up to end of the previous year.		During the year.							
				Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
M. P. Gauntlett, Esq. Babu Revati Mohan Chakravarti. Syed Abdul Fazil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	213 233	210 231	3,476 4,006	3,030 4,225	Figures in columns 3 and 4 are those given by the Survey Department. The figures as found from the chalangas accompanying the records are 1,235 and 668 respectively.
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	223	215	2,407	5,854	
Total	...	...	1,235	668	1,208	528	1,235	668	...	669	656	9,979		13,100

APPENDIX D.

Annual Return of Boundary Disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act for the year ending 30th September 1896.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF.			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
	To the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
M. F. Gauntlett, Esq.	...	765	765	...	95	95	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Maulavi Ghulam Ghous	...	...	...	...	7	7	...	61	39	35	...	...	...
Syed Abdul Fazil.	...	...	...	...	358	353	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Babu Revati Mohan Chakravarti.	...	...	...	...	305	306	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	765	765	...	765	765	...	61	39	35	...	...	4

APPENDIX E.

Annual Return of Attestation Work, including final publication of records for the year ending 30th September 1896.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN THE AREA OF THE CIRCLE IN SQUARE MILES.		NUMBER OF VILLAGES FOR WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE SURVEY DEPARTMENT.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.				NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT PUBLISHED.		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED.		REMARKS.
		Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.		Number of villages.	Number square miles.	Number tenants.	Number plots.	Number of villages.	Number square miles.	Number tenants.	Number plots.	Up to the end of the pre-vious year.	During the year.	Up to the end of the pre-vious year.	During the year.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Munshi Nandji ...	A.	194	111'00	...	203	139'01	29,517	203,264	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	* These were all records of the area attested in 1893-94.
Babu Makhan Lal Chatterjee.	B.	172	85'90	...	172	85'90	28,021	165,096	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Maulavi Ashfaq Hus-sain.	C.	236	93'98	...	236	93'98	23,514	154,395	...	...	...	...	265	867	57*	11*	
M. F. Gauntlett, Esq.	D.	251	99'35	...	251	99'35	26,925	142,396	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Babu Nalini Chandra Rai.	E.	287	97'18	...	287	97'18	24,408	137,547	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Babu Hem Ch. Chat-terjee.																	
Total		1,140	487'4	...	1,293	596'42	150,415	782,098	...	...	...	...	265	867	57	11	

APPENDIX F.

Annual Return of Cases under section 104 of the Tenancy Act for Settlement of Fair Rents for the year ending 30th September 1896.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Area of circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF CASES INSTITUTED—			NUMBER OF CASES DISPOSED OF—			NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED—			Former rental of tenants included in column II.			New rental settled for tenants in column II.			NUMBER OF DECISIONS APPEALED AGAINST TO SPECIAL JUDGE.			NUMBER OF APPEALS DECIDED.			NUMBER OF DECISIONS OF REVENUE OFFICER AS IN COLUMN 20—				REMARKS.
			To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24					
Previous year's figures		...	2,879	...	2,879	1,887	...	1,887	...	...	...	Rs.	Rs.	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...					
M. F. Gauntlett, Esq.		...	...	...	...	...	...	1,887	...	...	...	22,964	26,169	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...					
Munshi Nandji		...	...	...	...	...	...	450	...	...	...	52,848	60,670	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...					
Babu Makhan Lal		...	...	...	...	...	...	61	...	1,284	...	16,075	18,091	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...					
Chatterjee.		...		465	465	...	663	663	...	12,286	...	1,21,085	1,38,967	...	1	175	176	...	...	...	...	...	...					
Maulavi Ghulam		...	...	...	...	...	104	104	...	1,156	...	9,432	10,518	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...					
Ghous.		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...					
Babu Atul Chandra		...	2,879	465	3,344	1,887	1,385	3,272	20,209	21,720	...	2,26,414	2,54,415	1	175	176	...	...	...	...	...	...	...					
Kerr.		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...					
Total		...	2,879	465	3,344	1,887	1,385	3,272	20,209	21,720	...	2,26,414	2,54,415	1	175	176	...	...	...	...	...	...	...					

APPENDIX G.

Statement showing the grounds for the enhancements made under section 104 for the year ending 30th September 1896.

Total rent attested.	Total enhancement under section 50 (prevailing rate).	Percentage on column 1.	Total enhancement under section 52 (excess area).	Percentage on column 1.	Total decrease under section 52(1) (b) (decreased area).	Percentage on column 1.	Net enhancement made.	Percentage on column 1.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Rs. 2,25,414	Rs. 4,317	1.91	Rs. 27,321	12.12	Rs. 2,635	1.12	Rs. 29,951	12.86	

APPENDIX H.

Return of Objections under section 105 and Disputes under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act for the year ending 30th September 1896.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Nature of case.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF.			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
		Up to the end of the pre- vious year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
											Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
All officers	(1) Objections heard and con- sidered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act.	404	9,487	9,891	...	7,143	7,143	2,748	...	...	...	...	...	
Ditto	(2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	13	116	129	...	22	22	106	...	...	...	...	...	

APPENDIX J.

Financial Statement.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Expenditure to end of the previous year (against each sub-head).	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4
1. Pay and special allowance of—	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Settlement Officer	12,837 2 10	6,817 5 2	
Assistant Settlement Officers	26,953 7 6	22,285 6 5	
2. Fixed establishment	776 14 2	2,609 2 11	
3. Temporary establishment	11,201 1 7	7,710 15 2	
4. Contract and job work	554 6 3	5,413 15 10	
5. Travelling allowance—			
Of officers	6,552 2 1	4,876 12 6	
Of establishment	65 8 0	42 13 0	
6. Supplies and services—			
Forms	116 6 2	2,430 10 0	
Tents	1,413 14 0	.....	
Petty construction	2,965 2 5	8,600 2 3	
„ repairs	.....	.....	
7. Contingencies—			
Hot-weather charges	.....	93 8 3	
Office rent	.....	.....	
Service telegram	1,517 7 0	41 0 0	
„ postage charges	.....	200 9 0	
&c. &c. &c.	.....	1,782 9 0	
Total	64,958 8 0	62,134 13 6	
Add on account of the salary of the Director and the Settlement Branch of his office during the year 1893-94 only.	1,123 13 11	.....	
	66,082 5 11	62,134 13 4	

APPENDIX L

NAMES OF THANAS.	BAKASHT MALIK.										BAKASHT TENURE-HOLDERS (INCLUDING UNDER-TENURE-HOLDERS).					RAIYATS AT FIXED RENTS OR RATES.													
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25				
	Number of villages.	Number of hold-ings.	Cropped area.	Uncropped area.	Total area.	Number of hold-ings.	Cropped area.	Uncropped area.	Total area.	Number of hold-ings.	Cropped area.	Uncropped area.	Total area.	Number of hold-ings.	Cropped area.	Uncropped area.	Total area.	Total cash rents.	Rate of rent per cropped area.	Rate of rent per acre for whole holding.									
Miranj ...	853	1,086	3,346	734	154	3,601	305	465	2,032	177	120	147	2,150	324	1,462	4,925	392	714	803	5,640	135	183	289	29	541	83	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Gopalgarh ...	116	138	1,927	435	39	1,067	393	93	1,214	488	163	495	67	78	53	569	30	31	35	594	15	764	1	711	1	5	5	5	
Total	969	1,224	4,374	669	193	4,568	598	558	2,156	305	122	307	2,280	812	1,625	5,421	502	788	333	6,209	395	222	283	45	305	588	1,004	3	3

NAMES OF THANAS.	SETTLED BAIYATS (INCLUDING OCCUPANCY BAIYATS).										NON-OCCUPANCY BAIYATS (INCLUDING DIARA BAIYATS).									
	Number of hold- ings.	Cropped area, cash paying and rent- free.	Uncropped area, cash paying and rent-free.	Total area, cash paying and rent- free.	Area on produce rent.	Total cash rent.	Rate of rent per cropped acre, cash paying and rent- free.	Rate of rent per acre for whole holding, cash pay- ing and rent-free.	Number of hold- ings.	Cropped area, cash paying and rent- free.	Uncropped area, cash paying and rent-free.	Total area, cash paying and rent- free.	Area on produce rent.	Total cash rent.	Rate of rent per cropped acre, cash paying and rent- free.	Rate of rent per acre of holding, ex- cluding pro- duce rent area.				
Mirganj	58,416	13,601	6,480	14,249	8,093	5,49,595	13 6	4 0 8	4,568	4,043	821	4,187	745	308	16,164	3 13 9				
...	8,027	20,798	1,445	22,344	357	89,065	4 9	3 15 9	925	1,737	483	1,571	882	118	4,756	2 8 8				
Sopalganj	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...				
Total	66,443	1,56,869	8,925	1,64,834	994	6,38,661	2 3	3 14 0	5,493	6,771	254	6,059	6.7	427	20,920	3 7 3				

NAMES OF THAKAS.	MOAFIDARS.			UNCULTIVATED.		KAISER-I-HIND.	UNDER-RAITATS (SHIKHIS).							REMARKS.		
	Cropped area.	Uncropped area.	Total area.	Number of hold- ings.	Number of hold- ings.	Total area.	Total area of the village.	Number of hold- ings.	Cropped area, cash paying and rent- free.	Uncropped area, cash paying and rent-free.	Total area, cash paying and rent- free.	Area on produce rent.	Total cash rent.		Rate of rent per cropped acre, cash paying and rent- free.	Rate of rent per acre of holding, excluding pro- duce rent area.
	38	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54
Mirganj	7,065	313	8,389	983	23,182	231	1,91,379	7,681	4,274	981	75	941	4,350	923	1,393	983
"	5,779	1,534	611	3,024	23,182	1,043	374	7,681	4,274	981	75	941	4,350	923	1,393	983
Gopalganj	844	275	1,101	377	4,339	234	38,975	1,172	635	043	23	746	663	789	147	052
"	6,423	1,131	1,406	376	4,339	234	38,975	1,172	635	043	23	746	663	789	147	052
Total	6,423	8,186	587	3,401	27,982	1,277	2,27,365	8,853	4,310	021	104	687	5,014	711	1,541	035

C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX M.

Details of area.

Thanas.	Number of villages.	CROPTED AREA.						CULTURABLE AREA OTHER THAN CURRENT FALLOW.						AREA NOT AVAILABLE FOR CULTIVATION.			
		Bhadol.	Agahni.	Rabi.	Total.	Defasli.	Net cropped area.	Current fallow.	Old fallow.	Mango groves.	Culturable jungle.	Other kinds.	Total.	House sites.	Water.	Other kinds.	Total.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Mirganj ...	1,025	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.
Gopalganj ...	183	96,422 888	50,493 19	140,430 324	297,351 372	78,186 655	209,164 717	1,545 066	16,570 839	10,898 85	953 069	109 625	28,532 383	2,599 992	5,084 38	7,160 742	14,845 114
Total ...	1,208	28,855 915	16,506 094	33,290 094	78,622 013	26,992 665	51,629 348	729 883	5,747 998	2,587 232	688 186	106 92	9,130 336	596 786	1,759 138	1,663 744	4,019 688
		125,278 773	67,004 194	173,690 418	365,973 385	105,179 32	260,794 065	2,274 449	22,318 837	13,486 082	1,641 255	216 545	37,662 719	3,196 778	6,843 518	8,524 486	18,864 782

Thanas.	Number of villages.	Total area, columns 7 and 18.	IRRIGATED AREA AND HOW IRRIGATED.						DETAILS OF IRRIGATED AREA AS REGARDS CROPS.						NUMBER OF WELLS.		REMARKS.
			Irrigated area.	Irrigated from wells.	Irrigated from Govern-ment canals.	Irrigated from private canals.	Irrigated from tanks and aharis.	Irrigated from other sources.	Rice.	Wheat.	Other cereals and pulses.	Other food-crops.	Non-food-crops.	Masonry.	Earthen.		
		18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33
Mirganj ...	1,025	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.
Gopalganj ...	183	44,922 568	254,087 285	51,885 367	32,523 199	118 759	2,591 865	14,109 263	2,542 281	1,134 402	5,770 87	33,481 422	3,170 41	5,328 263	3,391	174	3,391
Total ...	1,208	13,879 382	65,598 73	57,318 913	4,295 343	34 98	189 04	14,739 523	188 923	85 874	360 004	2,216 223	265 95	2,400 995	823	116	823
		58,801 95	319,596 016	57,318 913	36,808 542	153 739	2,780 905	14,739 523	2,731 204	1,219 776	6,130 874	35,697 645	3,436 36	10,729 258	4,124	290	4,124

APPENDIX N.

Crop Statement.

THANAS.	CEREALS AND PULSES.												OILSEEDS.				SUGAR.		FIBRES.							
	Number of villages.	Wheat.		Barley.	Jowar (millett).		Bajra (millett).	Mandua.	Maize.	Gram.	Kodo.	Raghal.	Other food-grains, including pulses.	Linseed.	Til or linjil.	Mustard.	Others.	Condiments and spices.		Sugarcane.	Others.	Cotton.	Jute.	Sisal.	Others.	
		3	4		5	6												7	8							9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24			
Mirganj ...	1,025	64,727 075	17,731 23	43,630 457	240 84	1,078 059	5,880 639	12,018 513	3,435 235	25,000 207	694 264	66,054 471	11,477 502	48 206	150 96	1,163 833	1,199 779	8,216 759	3 539	435 935	2 148	203 904	2 195			
Gopalganj ...	183	13,778 003	4,033 808	9,326 268	17 82	108 801	333 081	5,868 37	4,781 88	5,282 775	425 832	11,196 54	6,514 578	45 431	124 134	314 761	835 75	478 686	2 201	4,408 559	6 202	147 30	2 50			
Total	1,208	78,505 078	21,765 038	52,956 719	258 66	1,186 86	6,263 72	17,886 833	8,217 115	30,282 982	1,120 146	77,253 011	17,992 08	93 64	275 094	1,478 584	2,035 539	8,695 445	5 73	4,924 524	8 35	411 204	4 635			

Cxi.

THANAS.	DYES.			DRUGS AND NARCOTICS.								MISCELLANEOUS CROPS.								REMARKS.			
	Indigo.	Others.		Opium.	Coffee.	Tea.	Tobacco.	Cinchona.	Indian hemp.		Others.	Ropder crops.	Thatching Grass.	Garden produce and orchards other than mango groves.	Food.				Non-food.		Total.	Area cropped more than once.	Net area cropped (31.32).
															Potatoes.	Yams.	Kachhiana.						
	26	27		28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45		
Mirganj	A. D.	A. D.		A. D.			A. D.		A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.		
...	2,407 76	6 302		8,442 142	...	...	6 311	...	0 56	2 64	128 033	4,702 853	435 961	185 71	2,283 738	226 58	36 994	287,851 372	78,186 685	230,164 717			
Gopalganj	...	...		3,497 516	...	...	7 098	...	0 52	0 12	16 17	1,076 265	139 823	124 17	1,343 90	75 127	2 71	78,692 013	26,992 005	51,629 348			
Total	...	...		11,939 658	...	...	13 409	...	1 08	2 76	144 203	5,779 108	595 734	309 88	3,627 638	301 707	39 694	365,973 385	106,179 32	250,794 065			

APPENDIX IX(iv).

GAYA ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER 1896.

Notifications.—By a Notification No. 5017L.R., dated the 22nd November 1895, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 27th November 1895, seven villages belonging to Government estates were brought within the scope of our operations.

2. *Programme.*—The programme set out for the settlement staff during the past year was—

- (a) The supervision of *khanapuri* in 77 villages belonging to the Belkhara mahal, and 10 villages belonging to Government, and the decision of boundary disputes.
- (b) The attestation of 109 villages of Government estates covering an area of 88 square miles, and 107 villages belonging to the Tikari ward covering an area of 69 square miles.
- (c) The settlement of fair rents under sections 101 (2)(d) and 104 (2) in 96 villages with 2,970 holdings held by Government, and the settlement of fair rents on application in the villages held by private parties.
- (d) The disposal of objections under section 105, and suits under section 106, after draft publication.
- (e) Commutation of produce rents into cash rents under section 40 in 37 villages with 908 holdings held by Government.
- (f) Completion of the record of rights.
- (g) Compilation of statistics of areas and tenancies of the villages attested.
- (h) The final publication of the records of the villages attested.

3. *Staff of officers and distribution of work.*—In order to carry out the programme, a staff of three officers was placed at my disposal. In statement A attached to this report are shown the periods for which these officers were employed, the work they were engaged on, and the number of days they were on tour. Babu Annada Charan Gupta was in subordinate charge of the work throughout the year.

Mr. P. C. Lyon was Settlement Officer up to 10th February 1896, when I succeeded him. On my taking leave on July 7th, 1896, Mr. R. B. Hughes, Assistant Settlement Officer in charge, Muzaffarpur, supervised the settlement work in Gaya in addition to his own duties.

4. *Record-writing.*—The programme of the Survey Department was the survey and the preparation of the records of 77 villages of the Belkhara mahal, and 10 villages of the Government estates. The work was entrusted to a survey party under Mr. G. T. Hall, Assistant Superintendent of Survey, whose office was located at Daudnagar on the river Sone. He remained in close touch with the Belkhara villages. Babu Annada Charan Gupta supervised the *khanapuri*. There was some difficulty in recording the holdings purchased by Mr. E. Solano, who is *mukararidar* for 10 annas and *thikadar* for the remaining 6 annas interest in mahal Belkhara. The tenants of these lands would not at first come forward to claim their cultivating rights, and the village officials in some places were obstructive. When it was explained to Mr. G. Solano, Manager on behalf of Mr. E. Solano, that the preliminary entries could be subsequently disputed and revised, obstruction was withdrawn, and Babu Annada Charan Gupta was able to cope successfully with the minor difficulties that subsequently arose.

5. *Boundary disputes.*—The work in this respect was not inconsiderable. It was entrusted to Babu Annada Charan Gupta, and went on *pari passu* with the supervision of *khanapuri*. In several instances the cases were keenly contested. There were eight appeals, and the decisions of the Lower Court were upheld in all of them.

6. *Attestation.*—For the attestation of 216 villages covering an area of 152·57 square miles, two circles were mapped out. Camp No. 1 mainly consisted of villages belonging to Government. It was fairly compact, and was entrusted to Sub-Deputy Collector Babu Jogendro Chandra Bhanja. Maulvi Ali Mazahar, Sub-Deputy Collector, was placed in charge of the other camp. The villages of this camp were extremely scattered, and some of them lay in the Patna district. In drawing up the programmes ample allowance was made for the delays which attestation over such a scattered area must entail, and both camps had completed their work by the end of March.

As remarked in the annual report for last year, owing to the dullness and apathy of the tenants, the preliminary explanation of our records or *bujharat* proved difficult. In several villages owned by Government jointly with other landlords, where Government receives its share of the rents in money, the other landlords receive their share in kind: a state of things that added considerably to the complications of record-writing. In the khas mahal villages at camp I, too, the tenants were found to be much in the habit of transferring their holdings by sale or mortgage without applying for mutation of their names in the Collectorate register, and much time was lost in reconciling the Collector's rent-roll with our records. The Sub-Deputy Collector deputed by the Collector to watch the interests of Government, and the special officer appointed by the Tikari Court of Wards to look after its interests in the course of settlement proceedings, rendered valuable assistance at the time of attestation.

7. The classification of lands paying money rents into *shikam*, *chakat*, and *paran* has been again followed this year. The meaning of these terms were explained in my last Annual Report. Statement I shows the quantity of lands held on money rent under these different names in 107 villages belonging to the Tikari Raj. In the case of Government villages the Collector in his letter No. 514 G.E., dated 2nd February 1896, addressed to the Commissioner suggested that "*chakat*" lands might be classed as ordinary cash rent lands, and gave up the right to convert them into *bhaoli* again. The approval of the Board was communicated in their letter No. 608A., dated 19th June 1896.

8 A general outstand was made by all the Government villages in camp I for *shikam*, i.e., the right to hold at fixed rents or a fixed rate of rents. The tenants based their claims on the jamabandi register drawn up by Babu Raj Kishore Narain, Deputy Collector, in which certain plots in every holding were put down as "*Shikam*." The matter was carefully enquired into, and it was found that Babu Bimola Charan Bhattacharji, Settlement Deputy Collector, who settled the khas mahal villages, refused to recognise any land as *shikam*, and his proceedings were upheld by the higher authorities. Subsequently, when some of the *nagdi* lands reverted to *bhaoli*, Babu Raj Kishore Narain, who was in charge of the khas mahal, drew up a new rent-roll, and without due authority recorded some of the lands as "*shikam*." The raiyats' claim was therefore disallowed.

9. *Assessment and settlement of fair rents.*—In 12 villages belonging to the Tikari Raj, applications for settlement of fair rents were filed affecting 69 tenants. The rent was enhanced from Rs. 2,056 to Rs. 2,141, i.e., by 4·1 per cent. The enhancement was given under section 52 of the Tenancy Act. In the Government estates land revenue is being settled under section 101 (2) (d) of the Act, and under section 104 (2), the Settlement Officer is bound to settle fair rents for all lands. A calculation was made which showed that, were Government to base its application for enhancement on the ground of a rise in the prices of the staple food crops, it would be entitled to an increase of 2 annas 4 pies per rupee. After consultation with Mr. Lyon and myself, the Collector recommended that Government in all its estates (with a few exceptions), in addition to the increase of rent to which it would be entitled under section 52 on account of increase in area after making an allowance of 10 per cent. or 2 cattahs per bigha to cover the area absorbed in boundaries, &c., should demand an enhancement under section 30 of 2 annas in the rupee, the Settlement Officer being given the discretion to reduce this rate where it was found necessary. In the case of decreased area the Collector considered it unnecessary to give an allowance of 10 per cent. in addition to the proportionate decrease of rent. On this point he wrote:—"In the case where there is a decrease in area, the question arises whether we should allow 10 per cent. I do not think that as a rule we are called on to do so. In the case of increase we make the allowance, because we desire to avoid the possibility of hardship which may result from the different system of measurement, but we know our present measurement is accurate, and if we find a man holds, for instance, 10 bighas, and is paying for 10 bighas, there seems to be no equitable reason why we should say he only holds 9 bighas and should only pay for that area." These proposals were approved of by Government. For the settlement of fair rents in Government estates, I drew out a set of rules which were submitted to the Director of Land Records for approval with my letter No. 18B., dated 10th June 1896, also a form of assessment schedule, in which the signatures of the tenants are required in token of their acquiescence in the rent fixed. The enhancement demanded on account of increased area was as a rule readily agreed to by the raiyats. In the villages of mahal Sarva, the areas of the holdings entered in the Collector's rent-roll showed a great discrepancy when compared with the areas of the present survey. This mahal contains large tracts of uncultivated waste and jungle lands. The length of lagge, according to which the areas have been converted into bighas and cottahs, is 8·25 feet, as found in the old settlement papers and noted by the Collector. But in the villages its length is recognised as 9 feet, and according to that length appraisalment and new settlement are made by the Government officials. The fact was brought to the notice of the Collector, and with his approval an allowance of 6 cottahs per bigha was given on the excess area, and where the enhancement claimed has been over 4 annas, it has been spread over four years under section 36.

The enhancement under section 30 in six of the first set of villages taken up met with considerable opposition. A formal procedure for determining the assessment had to be adopted. Some preliminary technical objections as to the jurisdiction of the Court were raised, and when these issues were decided against the raiyats, they considered further opposition futile and agreed to a compromise. After that the assessment work appears to have proceeded smoothly. In certain villages the rate of enhancement was reduced to 1 anna or to 1 anna 6 pies per rupee. Details are given in statement J. The total increase under section 30 is Rs. 3,661 (i.e., 8·20 per cent.), and under section 52 Rs. 1,042 (or 2·30 per cent.), and the decrease under section 52 is Rs. 692, or 1·50 per cent. The total enhancement amounts to 9 per cent only, which is moderate.

10. *Commutation.*—This work was confined to the Government estates, and the principles on which it was to be carried out are discussed in the Collector's letter above referred to. There are 37 villages with 908 holdings in which the Collector recommended the *bhaoli* (produce) rent to be commuted into *nagdi* (cash rent) under section 40. The Sarva mahal and two villages of group IV were excluded from this portion of the operations, because they are at present but partially developed. The average income obtained by Government from the *bhaoli* lands of each holding for the last five years formed the basis of the commutation. It was impossible to collect information for a longer period than five years,

as papers were not available. In commuting on this system it is essential to remember that whereas it is unusual for a cultivator to bring into cultivation all the *bhaoli* land in his holding every year, he takes care to have the whole of it recorded in his record of rights, consequently for the purpose of comparing the *bhaoli* and the new rent-rates, the rate of the cash equivalent for the *bhaoli* rent is extracted on the largest, and not on the average *bhaoli* area cultivated within the last five years. If, then, the rent-rates work out approximately the same, there is no danger that the commutation has operated to the raiyats' disadvantage. Where the rates work out very diversely, local enquiries are held. Commutation has been carried out by Babu Annada Charan Gupta successfully in 12 villages. For this he deserves credit, as commutation is a very odious process to the village official, to whom the glorious uncertainty of *bhaoli* rents gives opportunities of which he is now being deprived. The rates of the cash rents are moderate. In private estates produce rents are usually much higher than cash rents. That they are not in these estates is no doubt due to the fact that Government does not receive its full share of the produce rents, as it has no means to check efficiently the speculation of its patwaris. In commuting produce rents in a district like Gaya, the question of irrigation is too important to be lost sight of. The reason for the prevalence of the *bhaoli* system in this district is that cultivation without irrigation is impossible, and that irrigation is of a form that requires for its maintenance the amicable co-operation of landlords and raiyats. The question was discussed in the conference the Collector had with Mr. Lyon and myself, and he wrote in his letter already referred to as follows:—

"In this connection Mr. Lyon asked if Government would give any formal guarantee for maintenance of irrigation works. My reply was that I did not think Government should be called on for any formal agreement on the subject, but might be relied upon to keep up and improve the irrigation works in future, for all the lands in these estates, to at least as great an extent as it has done in the past. Of course if at any future time Government should decide to sell its right in these estates, the purchaser should be bound by regular agreement to keep up irrigation works, but arrangements as to this may, I think, be left over till such time as Government entertains the idea of disposing of the mahals."

11. The Gaya assessment work appears to have supplied a contribution to the case law on the subject of fair rents. I have not yet seen the judgments, but from the description of the case which I reproduce, the High Court appears to have assigned to the term "prevailing rate" a wider definition than that hitherto enunciated.

In a case under section 104 combined with section 30(b) the landlord applied for enhancement of rent on the ground that the rate paid by the tenants was below the prevailing rate. He failed to prove the rate for lands of similar description in the village, but proved what were the rates for lands of superior and inferior character. The lands in respect of

The Settlement Officer should submit a copy of the High Court judgment to Government.

P. C. L.—13-11-96.

which the landlord applied for an enhancement formed a block compact, and the village contained no land of a similar character. It was therefore physically impossible to fulfil the strict provisions of clause (a), section 30. Following the principle enunciated in *Tikaram Sing versus Sandes* (22 W. R., 33s.), the Assistant Settlement Officer granted an enhancement. The case went up in appeal before the High Court, but the decision of the Lower Court has been upheld.

12. *Draft publication.*—The publication of the record in draft went on simultaneously with attestation in villages where no applications were filed for the settlement of fair rents. In Government villages, draft publication was postponed till proceedings under rule 26 of the Government Rules and section 40 of the Tenancy Act were over. The records of 60 villages are pending for draft publication owing to these proceedings being still uncompleted.

13. *Objections under section 105.*—The work under this head was not of much importance. Exclusive of objections filed and decided during attestation, 86 formal objections were presented under section 105. They were decided by Babu Annada Charan Gupta during the recess.

14. *Suits under section 106.*—Only 26 suits were instituted under section 106. All of them were disposed of by Babu Annada Charan Gupta. There were four appeals against the decision of the Assistant Settlement Officer, and in all of them the judgments of the Lower Court were upheld. One of these cases went up to the High Court, but the appeal was dismissed.

15. *Final publication.*—The records of 440 villages attested in 1894-95 have been finally published. Also the records of 38 villages out of 216 villages attested in 1895-96.

16. *Expenditure.*—As noted in the last annual report, it is difficult to give a correct financial return for the survey year. In statement H I have shown the actual expenditure for the last 12 months, but it cannot be profitably compared with the budget estimate, as those estimates are prepared for the financial year ending on 31st March. In order to give an idea of the approximate cost per acre, Babu Annada Charan Gupta has made the following calculations:—"The total expenditure during the year is about Rs. 52,000 (survey Rs. 27,000 and settlement Rs. 25,000). With this amount we have almost completed the records of 216 villages

I do not think that these calculations give accurate results.

P. C. L.—13-11-96.

attested last year, covering an area of 155 square miles, or 99,200 acres, and the *khanapuri* of the 77 villages of mahal Belkhara and 10 of Government estates, covering an area of 100 square miles, or 64,000 acres. Assuming that almost the whole of the survey charges are to be debited against the latter, and adding another Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 25,000 for completing the records of 216 villages, I may say Rs. 35,000

will be the net cost chargeable against 216 villages. This will give an average expenditure of 6 annas per acre." The estimate is of course rough, and I think too low. The total cost for the year has not yet been adjusted between the three classes of estates under settlement.

17. *Statistics of area and holdings.*—The 107 villages of the Tikari Court of Wards for which records are ready cover 67 square miles, with 6,394 tenancies and 74,372 plots. Each village measures 62 square miles, and contains about 60 tenancies and 695 plots. Each tenancy contains 11 plots and about 6·70 acres. The average size of a plot is 60 acre. I have not been able to collect similar figures for the Government villages, as the records are not yet complete. I may note that the above figures apply mostly to villages of the Aurangabad subdivision. Similar figures supplied in last year's return applied mainly to the Sadar and Jahanabad subdivisions. Statement L shows the distribution of the land as occupied by the several classes of tenants in the Tikari Raj villages. Out of 42,832 acres contained in 107 villages of the Tikari Raj, 13,629 acres, or 32 per cent. of the total area, is waste. Of the same 153 acres, or less than one per cent., are occupied by Government or District Board roads and irrigation canals.

18. *Statistics of cultivation and crops.*—From the details of cultivation in statement M, the following figures are gathered regarding 107 Tikari villages:—Sixty-seven per cent. of the total area is under cultivation. Of this only 20 per cent. is twice cropped. The area under bhadoi is 4 per cent., under aghani 43 per cent., and under rabi 53 per cent. of the total cropped area. Out of 42,000 acres contained in 107 villages, only 200 acres are "mango groves," i.e., 0·05 per cent. of the total area. These villages belong mostly to the subdivision of Aurangabad, and these statistics may be said to be characteristic of the villages in that subdivision.

The whole of the cropped area is irrigated, and the following figures show to what extent by each method:—

- (a) Irrigated from wells, 3 per cent.
- (b) Irrigated from Government canals, 2 per cent.
- (c) Irrigated from pynes, 22 per cent.
- (d) Irrigated from ahars and tanks, 40 per cent.
- (e) Irrigated from other sources, 33 per cent.

The ratios which the different crops bear to each other with regard to area and irrigation are noted below:—

- (a) Rice 48 per cent. of the irrigated area.
- (b) Wheat 5 per cent.
- (c) Other cereals and pulses ... 34 "
- (d) Other food crops ... 12 "
- (e) Non-food crops ... 1 "

There are 183 masonry and 53 earthen wells, irrigating 806 acres. This gives an average of 4 acres to a well. From last year's figures it was found that an average of 14 acres might be irrigated from a well.

For the 109 villages attested during this year belonging to Government, I have been able to gather statistics about cultivation and crops. Out of the total area, about 43 per cent. of the land is under cultivation. Of this, 19 per cent. is twice cropped. Bhadoi is grown on 9 per cent., aghani on 43 per cent., and rabi on 48 per cent. of the total cropped area. Only 14,504 acres, or 60 per cent. of the area, is irrigated:—

- (a) From wells 11 per cent.
- (b) From pynes 23 "
- (c) From ahars and tanks ... 49 "
- (d) From other sources ... 17 "

Of the irrigated lands, the following figures show the distribution under the various crops:—

- (a) Rice 66 per cent. of the irrigated lands.
- (b) Wheat 13 per cent.
- (c) Other cereals and pulses ... 8 "
- (d) Other food crops ... 2 "
- (e) Non-food crops ... 10 "

There are 218 masonry and 165 earthen wells, irrigating 1,692 acres. This gives an average of about 5 acres per well.

Rice is grown on 40 per cent. of the net cropped area. Wheat and gram occupy 8 per cent. each. Linseed is found on 7 per cent. of the area. Sugarcane takes up 3 per cent. Barley and maize are grown on 5 and 4 per cent. respectively.

19. *The utilization of the patwaris for the maintenance of the records.*—All those who have been consulted are of one opinion, viz., that the village patwari should not be entrusted with any work regarding changes in the records. It should be done through some more reliable agency.

20. *Transfer of occupancy right.*—At the time of attestation the two Assistant Settlement Officers made personal enquiries regarding the transfer of tenants' rights in lands. The results of their enquiries are shown in statement O. Our operations being confined to Government and Tikari ward's estates, no statistics of the transfer of proprietary rights could be collected. The custom of transferring a holding or part of it by sale or mortgage is in vogue both in Tikari and Government villages. It does not appear necessary that the tenants should take the previous permission of the landlord. The statistics collected from camp I are applicable generally to the state of things in Gaya, and the following observations are therefore confined to them. Over 60 per cent. of the lands in this area are in the occupation of raiyats. The total number of transfers within the last ten years is 738, i.e., 10 per cent. Of these, 105, or one-seventh of the transactions, were by sale and six-sevenths by mortgage. The quantity of land transferred by sale is 1·12 per cent. of the total area held by the tenants, and that by mortgage is 2·53 per cent., whilst the total quantity transferred is 3·65 per cent. Out of the total area transferred, 16 per cent. and 15·5 per cent. relate to the area of entire holdings transferred by sale and mortgage respectively. Of the same, 14·5 per cent. and 53 per cent. were the areas of part holdings transferred by sale and mortgage. The average rate per acre of land transferred by sale is Rs. 43, and by mortgage is Rs. 58. It appears that the tenants mortgage better classes of lands than they sell. Among the transferees, 1 per cent. belong to the class of landlords, 5 per cent. to money-lenders, and 94 per cent. to the raiyats.

GENERAL REMARKS.

21. *Training of young Civilians in Survey and Settlement.*—The only officer who received training in survey settlement work in the district was the Assistant Collector, Mr. Forrester. He spent 27 days in camp with Mr. Hall, learning survey record-writing, and with Babu Annada Charan Gupta, Assistant Settlement Officer, who was engaged in deciding boundary disputes and testing khanapuri.

22. Mr. Lyon visited the district twice, myself twice, and Mr. Hughes once during the year. Babu Annada Charan Gupta, who was in direct subordinate charge of the operations, has an accurate knowledge of the district and displayed great activity in getting about it. On the whole the year's work has been done satisfactorily. The attestation officers, Maulvi Syed Ali Mazahar and Babu Jogendra Chander Bhanja, completed their programme, but deserve no special commendation. The supervision of the office should, I think, be closer, and there is no indication in it of that work at high pressure so noticeable in the districts north of the Ganges, especially at Muzaffarpur. But Babu Annada Charan Gupta deserves credit for the success with which he has carried through the assessment and commutation in Government estates.

Statement A.

OFFICER.	Work engaged in—	Period of employment.	Days on tour.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
C. J. Stevenson-Moore, Esq., c s.	Settlement Officer ...	.....	9	
Babu Annada Charan Gupta.	Subordinate charge and supervision of khanapuri, decision of boundary disputes and case work.	From 1st October 1895 to 30th September 1896.	187	
Babu Jogendra Chandra Bhanja.	Attestation work ...	From 25th October 1895 to 1st April 1896.	140	Reverted to general duty.
Syed Ali Mazahar ...	Ditto ...	From 26th October 1895 to 1st April 1896.	137	Ditto.

Statement C.—Annual report on Khanapuri work.

NAME OF OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH KHANAPURI WORK WAS COMPLETED.		Number of villages in which khanapuri is incomplete.	Number of villages inspected by Revenue officer during the year.	Number of amins inspected by Revenue officer during the year.	Number of plots of which the khasn entries were tested.	REMARKS.
				Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Babu Annada Charan Gupta ...	Tikari ...	552	384·63	552	...	...	...	...	...	
	Government estates ...	118	102·00	108	10	...	41	41	1,002	
	Bolkhara...	89	97·28	12	77	...	...	...	...	
Total ...		759	583·91	672	87	...	41	41	1,002	

Statement D.—Annual Return of Boundary Disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Number instituted to the end of the previous year.	Number instituted during the year.	Total.	Number disposed of to end of the previous year.	Number disposed of during the year.	Total.	Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
								Instituted, including appeals pending from preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Babu Ananda Chandra Gupta	453	141	594	446	148	594	...	8	8	8	...	...	

Statement E.—Annual return of attestation work, including final publication of records.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.				NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT PUBLISHED—		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED—		REMARKS.
				of Rumber villages.	of square miles.	of Number tenants.	of Number plots.	of Number villages.	of square miles.	of Number tenants.	of Number plots.	Up to the end of previous year.	During year.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During year.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Babus Jogendra Chandra Bhanja.	Circle I	...	83	61'46	...	...	...	83	61'46	6,153	76,834	...	...	...	...	
M. Syed Ali Mazahar	Circle II	...	134	91'11	...	...	...	134	91'11	6,835	6,254	...	...	...	...	
Total	...		216	152'57	441	317'73	...	216	152'57	13,998	83,088	440	157	NIL.	475	

Statement F.—Annual Return of Cases under Section 104 of the Tenancy Act for Settlement of Fair Rents.

[illegible]

Statement G.—Annual Return of Objections under Section 105 and Disputes under Section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NATURE OF CASE.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF.			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
		Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
											Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Babu Annada Charan Gupta.	(1) Objections heard and considered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act.	359	86	445	359	86	445	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	(2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	20	26	46	16	30	46	...	4	4	4	...	...	

Statement H.—Financial Statement.

	Budget estimate for 1895-96.	Total expenditure during the survey year 1893-94.	Total expenditure during the survey year 1894-95.	Total expenditure during the survey year 1895-96.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
<i>Salaries—</i>	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Settlement Officer ...	3,450	...	...	3,223	
Assistant Settlement Officer ...	6,250	...	8,694	6,420	
<i>Establishment—</i>					
Of Settlement Officer, including clerks and servants.	1,746	...	1,159	1,657	
<i>Temporary establishment—</i>					
Of Settlement Officer, including pilot establishment.	3,813	...	5,579	3,819	
Contract establishment	8,000	...	7,848	4,828	
Travelling allowance, including establishment.	2,675	...	4,487	2,378	
<i>Supplies and services—</i>					
Purchase of tents ...	...	...	1,924	...	
<i>Contingencies—</i>					
Office rent ...	900	...	825	900	
Miscellaneous ...	...	...	...	...	
(Unforeseen) ...	2,432	...	2,588	2,622	
Total ...	29,666	5,033	33,104	24,852	

Statement I.—Details of area held on cash rent (including village site).

Number of villages.	Shikami.	Chakat.	Paran.	Nagdi.	TOTAL.	
					Area.	Rent.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
107 villages (Tikari ward's estate)	748.24	3,488.58	102.71	2,619.20	60,958.73	Rs. A. P. 30,547 7 10

Statement J.—Details of enhancement and reduction of rent in Government villages.

TOTAL NUMBER ASSESSED.		Former rental.	ENHANCEMENT UNDER SECTION 52.			REDUCTION.			ENHANCEMENT, SECTION 30.			Total amount of new rental.	Percentage of increase.	TENANTS.					REMARKS.
Village.	Holding.		Number of holding.	Amount.	Percentage of increase.	Number of holding.	Amount.	Percentage of decrease.	Number of holding.	Amount.	Percentage of increase.			Number whose existing rents were retained.	Who agreed.	Who contested.	Fixed parts.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
88	2,853	44,412	742	1,042	2'30	701	692	1'50	2,125	3,661	8'20	48,423	9	281	2,831	...	28	2,853	

Statement K.—Annual Return of Progress for commutation of Bhaoli rent in Government villages.

1	2	3	4	5	6
Total number of villages in which commutation is to be done.	Total number of holdings.	Total number of villages in which commutation has been done during the year under report.	Total number of holdings in which commutation has been done during the year under report.	Amount of rent fixed by commutation.	REMARKS.
37.	826	12(a)	320	2,283	The villages pending for commutation belong to Mahal Dakhnez. They will be taken up in the course of October 1896.

(a) In one village the tenants have refused to accept the commuted rent.

Statement I.—Abstract of Khattians.

RAIYATS AT FIXED RATE AND RENTS.										SETTLED RAIYATS.																		
Number of villages.	NAME OF THE ESTATE.	PROPRIETORS' PRIVATE LAND.				HELD BY PROPRIETOR, BUT NOT PRIVATE LAND.				HELD BY TENURE-HOLDERS (INCLUDING UNDER-TENURE-HOLDERS) IN CULTIVATED POSSESSION.				RAIYATS AT FIXED RATE AND RENTS.				SETTLED RAIYATS.										
		Number of holdings.	Cultivated area.	Uncultivated area.	Total area.	Number of holdings.	Cultivated area.	Uncultivated area.	Total area.	Number of holdings.	Cultivated area.	Uncultivated area.	Total area.	Rate of rent per acre for whole holding.	Rate of rent per acre for cultivated area.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rate of rent per acre of holding, excluding produce rent area.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
107	Tikari Ward's Estate.	125	410-51	16-27	426-78	46	207-74	16-03	223-77	94	817-15	86-78	903-96	55	66-32	2-35	65-67	181 10 6	2 12 0	2 10 0	5,063	6,491-04	384-44	6,875-48	19,150-74	29,030 13 1	Rs. A. P. 4 9 0	Rs. A. P. 4 5 9

Number of villages.	NAME OF THE ESTATE.	NON-OCCUPANCY RAIYATS.										RENT-FREE HOLDERS.				UNOCCUPIED.		Total area of the village.			UNDER-RAIYATS.						REMARKS.
		Number of holdings.	Cultivated area cash-paying.	Uncultivated area cash-paying.	Total area cash-paying.	Area on produce rent.	Total cash rent.	Rate of rent per acre of holding, excluding produce rent.	Number of holdings.	Cultivated area.	Uncultivated area.	Total area.	Number of holdings.	Total area.	Number of holdings.	Total area.	Number of holdings.	Cultivated area cash-paying.	Uncultivated area cash-paying.	Total area cash-paying.	Area on produce rent.	Total cash rent.	Rate of rent per acre of cultivated area cash-paying.	Rate of rent per acre of holding, excluding produce rent area.			
107	Tikari Ward's Estate.	189	297-94	28-85	326-79	405-07	735 0 3	Rs. A. P. 2 7 0	Rs. A. P. 2 4 0	469	571-93	96-34	668-27	353	13,629-53	183-22	42,532-28	69-74	11-63	81-36	174-59	87 3 6	Rs. A. P. 1 3 0	Rs. A. P. 1 1 0			

Statement M.—Details of area.

NAME OF VILLAGES.	CROPPED AREA.						CULTIVABLE AREA OTHER THAN CURRENT FALLOW.						AREA NOT AVAILABLE FOR CULTIVATION.								
				Net cropped area.			Current fallow.	Old fallow.			Mango Groves.			Culturable jungle.	Other kind.	Total.	House sites.	Water.	Other kinds.	Total.	
	Bhadol.	Aghani.	Rabi.	Total.	Dofali.	9		10	11	12	13	14	15								16
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17					
Tikari estates ... 107	A. D. 1,368 55	A. D. 14,158 25	A. D. 17,488 11	A. D. 33,014 91	A. D. 5,602 2	A. D. 27,412 89	A. D. 1,536 3	A. D. 3,793 38	A. D. 200 69	A. D. 3,575 91	A. D. 638 99	A. D. 8,308 97	A. D. 299 4	A. D. 1,784 45	A. D. 8,591 90	A. D. 6,075 39					
Government estate 109	A. D. 2,831 18	A. D. 12,369 51	A. D. 13,970 55	A. D. 29,161 24	A. D. 4,813 92	A. D. 24,347 32	A. D. 524 61	A. D. 7,466 37	A. D. 271 51	A. D. 10,376 48	A. D. 236 65	A. D. 18,491 1	A. D. 516 42	A. D. 2,537 88	A. D. 10,124 32	A. D. 13,098 62					
GRAND TOTAL ... 216	A. D. 4,199 73	A. D. 26,517 76	A. D. 31,458 66	A. D. 62,176 15	A. D. 10,415 94	A. D. 51,760 21	A. D. 2,059 64	A. D. 11,369 75	A. D. 472 20	A. D. 13,952 39	A. D. 875 64	A. D. 26,699 98	A. D. 615 46	A. D. 4,382 33	A. D. 13,716 22	A. D. 18,714 01					

NAME OF VILLAGES.	IRRIGATED AREA AND HOW IRRIGATED.										DETAILS OF IRRIGATED AREA AS REGARDS CROP.										NUMBER OF WELLS.		REMARKS.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
	Irrigation area.					Irrigated from wells.					Irrigated from Govern-ment canals.					Irrigated from private canals.					Irrigated from tanks and shafts.					Irrigated from other sources.					Rice.	Wheat.	Other cereals and pulses.	Other food crops.	Non-food crops.	Masonry.	Barthen.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
	Total area, columns 7 and 18.	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
Total unutilized, columns 8, 13 and 17.	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					

Statement N.—Crop Statement.

NUMBER OF VILLAGES.		GRAIN AND PULSE.										OILSEED.			SUGAR.		FIBRES.			
		Rice.	Wheat.	Barley.	Jowar (millet).	Mudua.	Maize.	Gram.	Urid.	Bajra (millet).	Other food-grains, including pulse.	Linseed.	Til or jinjili.	Others.	Condiments and spices.	Sugarcane.	Others.	Cotton.	Jute.	Others.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
Tikari estate	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.
Government estate	13,233 69	1,296 77	1,370 73	517 80	398 53	316 74	3,636 2	20 67	41 72	10,017 82	1,510 24	120 72	270 54	33 35	469 23	6 27	14 57	9 57	8 24	
GRAND TOTAL	22,860 89	3,187 87	2,713 06	517 80	1,303 60	1,516 57	5,475 20	20 67	41 72	18,266 10	3,255 09	253 23	690 99	93 65	1,166 51	2 83	32 76	97 39	17 81	

NUMBER OF VILLAGES.		DRUGS AND NARCOTICS.										MISCELLANEOUS.			REMARKS.			
		Dyes.	Indigo.	Others.	Opium.	Coffee.	Tea.	Tobacco.	Cinchona.	Indian hemp.	Others.	Fodder crops.	Garden, produce and orchards other than mango groves.	Food.	Non-food.	Total.	Area cropped more than once.	(31-32) net area cropped.
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	
Tikari estate	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.
Government estate	243 32	370 0	...	...	9 4	...	...	89 45	...	1 04	13 19	0 84	...	33,014 91	5,002 2	27,412 89	...	...
GRAND TOTAL	613 32	...	...	...	0 21	...	...	89 45	...	128 04	29 80	5 22	4 39	62,176 15	10,415 94	51,760 21	...	...

Statement O.—Transfer of occupancy rights in area attested in 1895-96.

Camp number.	Number of villages.	Total area of camp.	Total area held by raiyats.	Total number of khathin.	NUMBER OF TRANSFERS.			AREA OF ENTIRE HOLDINGS TRANSFERRED.			AREA OF PART HOLDINGS TRANSFERRED.			TOTAL AREA TRANSFERRED.			PERCENTAGE TO COLUMN 14.		PERCENTAGE TO COLUMN 15.		PERCENTAGE TO COLUMN 16.				
					By sale.	By mortgage.	Total.	By sale.	By mortgage.	Total.	By sale.	By mortgage.	Total.	By sale.	By mortgage.	Total.	By sale.	By mortgage.	Total.	Of column 8.	Of column 11.	Of column 9.	Of column 12.	Of column 10.	Of column 13.
I		3	34	4	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22				
II	82	39,251	24,063	7,434		738	141 82	137 10	278 92	128 26	472 8	600 33	270 7	600 18	879 25	62 59	47 37	22 52	77 61	31 71	68 27				
	134	59,982	28,282	5,555		179	89 39	132 28	217 98	74 18	268 87	313 1	163 58	308 12	631 70	64 69	45 69	84 33	15 68	68 39	31 0				
	216	99,233	52,345	12,989		917	231 21	206 38	406 90	202 43	710 95	913 34	433 65	977 30	1,410 95	53 34	46 65	27 22	73 77	35 25	64 76				

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Camp number.	PERCENTAGE TO COLUMN 3A.				PERCENTAGE TO COLUMN 4.				NUMBER OF TRANSFERS TO—				PRICE PAID FOR AREA TRANSFERRED.				RATE PER ACRE FOR LAND TRANSFERRED.				HIGHEST RATE.				LOWEST RATE.		REMARKS.						
	Of column 14.		Of column 15.		Of column 16.		Of column 5.		Of column 6.		Of column 7.		Landlord.	Lower class.	Money lenders.	Rajpats.	By sale.		By mortgage.		Total.		By sale.		By mortgage.			Total.		By sale.	By mortgage.	By sale.	By mortgage.
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	Total.		By sale.		By mortgage.		Total.		By sale.		By mortgage.		Total.			By sale.	By mortgage.	By sale.	By mortgage.	By sale.	By mortgage.
I	1 12	2 53	3 65	1 41	8 51	9 92	7	...	34	697	11,690	35,679	47,370	43 4 9	58 9 4	4,101	445	260	5 5 9	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
II	0 57	1 30	1 87	0 68	2 62	3 22	1	...	...	177	4,466	6,487	10,944	27 5 5	42 10 10	70 0 3	270	188	1 6 3	0 12 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
	0 83	1 86	2 69	1 6	5 39	7 6	8	...	34	874	16,147	42,167	58,315	37 0 0	44 0 0	81 0 0	445	260	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		

2 2

C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX X.

No. 171, dated Comilla, the 8th October 1896.

From—J. G. CUMMING, Esq., Settlement Officer, Chakla Roshnabad, Palpara, and Gangamandal estates, Tippera,

To—The Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal (through the Collector of Tippera).

WITH reference to your Circular No. 538. of the 11th September 1896, I have the honour to submit the Annual Report of the progress of the Chakla Roshnabad, Palpara, and Gangamandal settlements for the year ending the 30th September 1896. In the Gangamandal estate, only the villages of Ranigach, Rampur, and Panchara have been hitherto included; but on the 26th August I received the papers of the village of Rajapur, which is also within the Gangamandal estate. No proceedings have as yet been taken by me in respect of this village.

2. I was in charge of these settlements from the 5th October 1895, on which date I returned from privilege leave, to the end of the survey year. Babu Kailas Chandra Bisvas, kanungo, was in charge for the first four days of October in 1895.

3. The notifications affecting the survey and settlement operations of the above three estates were mentioned in paragraphs 4 to 7 of the report for the survey year 1893-94.

4. At the close of this last survey year, the position in each estate was as follows:—The proceedings in Palpara were completed by the final publication of the last village on 26th July 1896. In the Gangamandal estate, of the three villages one, Ranigach, was finally published during the year, but on account of the remand by the Special Judge of a case under section 104, the facts have been reported to you for instructions. The other two villages, Rampur and Panchara, will be finally published very shortly. In the main estate Chakla Roshnabad, the attestation has been completed in somewhat more than half of the total number of villages; and the case-work has been following slowly after attestation. The number finally published is 97 out of a total of 1,511 villages. Reports on the proposed apportionment of costs in Chakla Roshnabad and in Palpara were submitted by me through the Commissioner of the Division in my No. 138, dated the 28th August 1896, and No. 120, dated the 7th August 1896, respectively.

5. The information relating to the staff, the period during which each officer was employed, the distribution of work and the number of days spent by each officer on tour during the year under report, has been shown in the following statement:—

NAME OF OFFICER.	Designation.	Period for which employed and distribution of work.	Circle of each officer.	Number of days spent on tour.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
J. G. Cumming, Esq., C.S.	Settlement Officer	5th October 1895 to 30th September 1896. General supervision, attestation, and case-work.	Attestation in the Central Division, and case-work in the Central and Northern Divisions: also in the Palpara and Gangamandal estates.	174	For nearly five months the Central Division case-work had to be tried at head-quarters in Comilla.
Babu Bisvesvar Bhattacharja.	Assistant Settlement Officer.	20th October 1895 to 18th March 1896. Case-work.	Partly in the Palpara and Gangamandal estates and partly in the Central Division, Chakla Roshnabad estate.	25	Received privilege leave on the 18th March 1896. Did not return to settlement duty.
Babu Annada Charan Guha.	Ditto	21st October 1895 to 5th June 1896. Attestation work.	Central Division, Chakla Roshnabad estate.	206	
Babu Suriya Kumar Das.	Ditto	2nd November 1895 to 31st May 1896. Attestation work.	Northern Division, Chakla Roshnabad estate.	206	
Babu Moti Lal Roy	Ditto	2nd December 1895 to 9th June 1896. Attestation work.	Ditto	189	
Babu Kailas Chandra Bisvas.	Ditto	30th December 1895 to 30th September 1896. Attestation work, including attestation of tenure-holders' khattians.	Partly in the Northern and partly in the Central Division, Chakla Roshnabad estate.	216	Previously kanungo. Was appointed Assistant Settlement Officer in Government order No. 5446 L.R., dated 18th December 1896.

The Northern and Central Divisions of the estate are divisions adopted by the management of the estate. For the purpose of the settlement, however, the whole of the estate has been divided into circles of an average area of 7 square miles each. The records have been arranged according to these circles; and the various processes of attestation, case-work, and publication follow each other as far as possible circle by circle.

6. There was no khanapuri undertaken during the year, with the exception of that of a small chak, No. 1 of pargana Champaknagar, included within pargana Daudpur.

This small tract, covering .01 square mile, was omitted by the survey party, but after investigation it was found to belong to the Chakla Roshnabad estate, and to be included within the notification of settlement.

7. Attestation was started by myself in the town of Comilla in October 1895. By the 2nd November two assistants were at work, and on the 2nd December three assistants; and by the middle of January I had four Assistant Settlement Officers engaged in the work of attestation. Of these four, three were engaged in the Northern Division, one of whom had to complete the jungly portion left uncompleted in the previous season; and the fourth was at work in the Central Division. From the beginning of May there were two officers in the Central Division and two in the Northern Division. My programme for the field season had been to complete the Northern Division and the Central Division to a point 10 miles south of Comilla; that was, to attest an area of 241 square miles with 592 villages. After my best endeavours I completed 535 villages covering 216.14 square miles. The remainder will be taken in hand at the first opportunity during the current season. In addition to the work of attestation, parchas throughout the Northern Division had to be distributed as a preliminary to the actual attestation. And during the recess Babu Kailas Chandra Biswas attested all the tenure-holders' khatians which had been prepared from the khatians attested during the field season. This procedure is rendered more troublesome from the fact that the Raj records, which do not go beyond the name and the rent of the rent-paying tenures, are very imperfect; and tenures frequently go astray, and their history can be traced only after much patient research.

8. The amount of attestation done in the year under report is shown in the statement No. 6. The allotment of the year's work to each officer is shown in the subjoined statement:—

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of Division in which employed.	Number of days actually employed on attestation.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE.				REMARKS.
			Villages.	Square miles.	Tenancies.	Plots.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
J. G. Cumming, Esq., C.S. ...	Comilla Town (a) ...	Days. 27	13	2.81	1,094	5,709	(a) The non-agricultural area and statistics are omitted.
Babu Annada Charan Guha ...	Central Division ...	178	231	61.61	18,640	96,568	
" Kailas Chandra Biswas ...	Ditto ...	98	37	13.24	4,309	22,318	
" Surjya Kumar Das ...	Northern Division ...	193	77	44.21	24,529	61,677	
" Moti Lal Roy ...	Ditto ...	161	70	51.71	21,516	61,670	
" Kailas Chandra Biswas ...	Ditto ...	45	107	42.56	9,910	34,366	
Total ...	Total ...	672	535	216.14	79,998	282,208	

These figures for the square miles, tenancies, and plots attested during the season do not agree with the totals of the monthly statements; but the former figures have been compiled from the compilation statements of each village and are the correct figures. The above abstract of the outturn of each officer shows that the aggregate number of months in which the officers were solely employed on attestation was 22½ months: and hence the average outturn per officer per month is 12,542. This is an improvement on the average of 9,196 of the previous year, and is due to a better trained staff, and to a larger portion of the area being khas area. And the rate of progress will, it is hoped, increase as far as plots go during next season, as the area to be attested will contain a still larger proportion of land which is held direct by the Raj. But in the parts of the Northern Division in which disputes are numerous and the tenantry obstructive and litigious, and in which there are two to three fields per tenancy, and each tenancy covers but an acre and a quarter, progress must be slow.

9. The following abstract will show the progress of attestation work done up to date, and the balance to be done in square miles, villages, and estimated number of plots. I leave out Palpara and Gangamandal in which the attestation is complete.

NAME OF ESTATE.	Name of Division.	TOTAL WORK TO BE DONE.			TOTAL ATTESTATION DONE TO END OF SURVEY YEAR 1895-96.			BALANCE TO BE DONE.		
		Area in square miles.	Number of villages.	Number of plots.	Area in square miles.	Number of villages.	Number of plots.	Area in square miles.	Number of villages.	Number of plots.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Chakla Roshnabad.	Northern Division	204.85	409	244,962	185.88	381	218,941	18.97	28	26,021
	Central Division	221.69	893	429,860	121.93	490	199,046	99.76	403	230,814
	Southern Division	129.11	209	223,058	...	...	...	129.11	209	223,050
	Total ...	555.65	1,511	897,880	307.81	871	417,989	247.84	640	479,893

The area given in Appendix 1 of your Annual Report for 1894-95 is 555.56 square miles. The correct area I believe to be 555.64 square miles, as given in my reports for

1893-94 and 1894-95. During this last season an area of 0·01 square mile with 29 plots in one village had to be added to the Northern Division total. It is my hope that if I have a sufficiently large staff I may complete the attestation of the remaining villages during the ensuing season. The area about to be attested was khanapuri two years ago, and if the interval is permitted to widen more between khanapuri and attestation, the difficulty of the latter obviously increases.

10. In the appendix I have given in the form No. 10 the status and rent of the tenants whose khatians were attested during the year. It will be noticed that 88·51 per cent. of the tenancies are held by settled raiyats and raiyats with right of occupancy. The percentage found from the attestation of the previous season was 85·30 per cent. I have also submitted a statement which is compiled from the terijs, which shows for each of the two divisions of the estate and for each class of holding the average area per holding, the average rent per acre of holding, and the incidence of rent per cultivated acre. In the status statement submitted for the report of 1894-95, I had intended that it be understood that the "average rent per cultivated acre" meant incidence of rent per cultivated acre. In my No. 314, dated 17th February 1896, I represented that the entry of Rs. 3-8-2 for settled raiyats was not the average for the whole holding, and that the real average rate per acre per holding would be much less, namely, Rs. 2-13-8. The villages attested during 1895-96 show an incidence of rent per cultivated acre of Rs. 3-11-2 for settled and occupancy raiyats, and average rate of rent per holding of such tenancies as Rs. 3-2-2. In the present return I have amalgamated raiyats with right of occupancy with settled raiyats; but in last year's return the incidence for raiyats with rights of occupancy was entered separately and was high, being Rs. 4-12-2 per acre. I take this opportunity of clearing up the misapprehension inasmuch as the Board of Revenue had remarked that the rate of Rs. 3-8-2 over the whole holding was "not low for a Bengal district."

11. The portion of the estate which has been attested covers three distinctive tracts,—the plains and hills of the Northern Division, and the plains of the Central Division. In the hilly parts of the Northern Division there are 3·51 fields per tenancy, and each tenancy covers nearly 3 acres: each field is 0·78 acre. In the plains, again, of the same division there are 2·86 fields per tenancy. Each tenancy covers slightly more than 1 acre, and each field is 0·44 acre. And in the Central Division, which is level land, the field is almost the same size, being 0·38 acre; but there are nearly twice as many fields per tenancy, namely, 5·12; and the average area of a tenancy is thus nearly 2 acres. For the 535 villages attested during last season I find an average of 258 acres, 149 tenancies, 527 plots for each village.

12. At the process of attestation I was also able to obtain figures relating to the transfers of tenancies in these three distributions of area; and indirectly of the price of occupancy right per acre. Out of the 846 villages in which information as to transfers has been recorded, there were found transfers in only 568 villages. Out of the total number of settled and occupancy raiyats who have been found in these villages, there were transfers recorded in 4·34 per cent; and after taking statistics over an area of 105·27 square miles, the area transferred was found to be 2·5 per cent. of the total area found in the hands of such settled and occupancy raiyats. The transfers to professed mahajans were found to be nearly all in the north-west portion of the Northern Division within the taluki area, and were only 1·4 per cent. of the total number of transfers recorded. It was of course natural that more information should be obtained for later years; but even allowing for this, the number discovered as having occurred before and after the Tenancy Act was 2·4 per cent. and 97·6 per cent. respectively. It is therefore evident that the Tenancy Act did give a great impulse to such transfers. The average price per acre of occupancy right I found to be Rs. 71·83 in the Central Division, Rs. 59·90 in the plains of the Northern Division, and Rs. 42·13 in the hills of the Northern Division. These statistical results agree pretty closely with what are the popularly known rates for these parts of the district.

13. Case-work during the last season got a good start; but the progress leaves much to be desired. In November and December 1895 the services of my case officer, Babu Bisvesvar Bhattacharjee, were required for the estates of Palpara and Gangamandal. When he returned to Chakla Roshnabad, he suffered from bad health; and ultimately had to go on privilege leave with a medical certificate on the 18th March 1896. He was able to try 55 cases in the Roshnabad estate, including 49 raiyati cases and 6 tenure cases, affecting 853 tenants. In the raiyati cases he raised the total rents from Rs. 9,043 to Rs. 11,008, thus giving an enhancement of Rs. 21·7 per cent. In the six tenure cases he raised the rents from Rs. 113 to Rs. 187, thus giving an increase of 65 per cent. He did not return to settlement duty; and so the greater portion of the case-work devolved upon myself. With a few exceptions in each case, the case-work in the Central Division represented mainly cases brought by the Raj against its khas raiyats on an average of 18 per village; and in the Northern Division against its talukdar tenure-holders. I have given standard decisions in the case of the former as regards standard of measurement, prevailing rates, excess area, and rise in prices; and in the case of the latter as regards the method of the settlement of talukdars, dar-talukdars, and cultivating talukdars. But it is unfortunate that up till the present the Special Judge has not been able to take up any of the many appeals which are pending. It needs no assurance from me to point out both the inconvenience to the settlement that arises from this, and the doubt and uncertainty to the Raj and its tenantry.

14. The result of the case-work shortly is as follows. There have been altogether from the beginning 239 raiyati cases instituted, of which 127 were decided up to the end of the year under report; and 537 tenure cases, of which 200 have been decided. In the khas area

in the Central Division during the past year 107 raiyati cases in all were decided, including the 49 of the Assistant Settlement Officer: these referred to 101 villages. In these the rent of 1,611 tenants was raised from Rs. 18,080 to Rs. 22,071, being an increase of 22 per cent., chiefly on the ground of excess area and partly on the ground of rise in prices. In the former case, previous measurement papers of the village were produced; and in the latter statistics of prices were proved from the books of the Comilla Jail, from the Gazettes, and from the books of a local baniya. In these 101 villages in the Central Division in connection with which section 104 raiyati cases have been completed, the position of the Raj landlord is as follows. The former khas rental was Rs. 29,852 and the new khas rental is Rs. 33,843, being an increase in the assets of the Raj of 13·3 per cent. To effect this the Raj brought applications against 1,880 out of 4,481 tenants, *i.e.*, against 42 per cent. of its tenantry in the above number of villages. The number of compromises was practically nil, and every case was fought to the end. Turning to the tenure holders' cases, I find that from the beginning up till the end of the year 537 cases had been instituted, of which 200 were decided. The cases decided during the year in the Northern Division, each involving one taluk, numbered 181. They are distributed as follows:—5 withdrawn, 2 struck off the file, 2 compromised, and 172 settled with fair rent by me. Of these 172, there were 5 settled with a reduced rent, 12 settled with the present rent, and 155 settled with an enhanced rent as fair. The total rents were raised from Rs. 2,829 to Rs. 5,280. This represents an enhancement of 86 per cent. This may seem very large; but I venture to put on record the following facts. The enhancements have been made progressive in a large majority of cases; the percentage of enhancement in the first year being only 26 per cent. Next, the new rents settled are calculated in almost every case as half of the gross profits. Next, these talukdars have been holding, generally speaking, at comparatively low rents, inasmuch as the percentage of their old rents to their present gross profits, which are Rs. 10,162 in the cases in which the fair rent was calculated on a proportion of the gross assets, is but 27 per cent. And finally, the actual demand asked for by the Raj was Rs. 17,575, which represented an enhancement of 521 per cent.; and in fact I decided that the Raj were entitled to more than half profits, but the Raj accepted half profits. Nevertheless, while I consider that these talukdars of the Northern Division of Chakla Roshnabad should pay more, and considerably more as a body than they are paying at present, yet the prospect of suing each in turn (and there are over 2,000 of them) cannot be satisfactory to these men or to the Raj. And it is my hope that a *modus vivendi* may yet be found between this class of tenantry and their landlords. The absence of definiteness in the work that has been done on account of the non-disposal of the appeals preferred, has of course much to do with the present attitude both of the Raj and of its tenantry. At the same time, though principles were laid down by the Raj management for the guidance of the Raj subordinates in connection with the preparation of section 104 cases, —and these cases were presumably based upon my attested records,—yet the non-adherence to those principles and the disregard of my papers had not a little to do with increasing the difficulty of my work and with alienating the reasonable amongst the tenantry.

15. The number of decisions appealed against, of which I have received official intimation, is 391 in all three estates. Of these only one has been decided. This last related to the village Ranigach in Gangamandal estate, and the order of the Special Judge was that although the order of the Assistant Settlement Officer was not improper, it was better that the case should be revived.

16. As for the minor estates, the case-work under section 104 was completed. Babu Bisvesvar Bhattacharjee tried 269 cases affecting 11 villages and 269 tenants in the Palpara estate. He practically upheld the present rents, giving a nominal increase from Rs. 3,392 to Rs. 3,393. The same officer dismissed the cases in the village of Ranigach of Gangamandal estate, already referred to. I tried myself in June last 124 cases affecting 124 tenants in the two villages Rampur and Panchara of the Gangamandal estate. I judicially determined the present rents and settled them as fair, with the exception of six cases which were withdrawn. The rents of these villages, no less than those of the Palpara estate, were in a state of absolute confusion.

17. Draft publication has been carried on by means of selected head muharrihs who were sanctioned as kanungos. In the Central Division 5 villages covering 1·21 square miles were published in the previous year and 110 during the year under report, covering 21·47 square miles.—in all 22·68 square miles up to date. In the Northern Division only 2 villages covering 0·59 square mile were draft-published during the past year, and 118 villages were partly draft-published. These last were villages in which only the tenure-holders were affected by the section 104 cases; and so an opportunity was taken of draft-publishing all the khatians of raiyats. Owing to the intermixed tenures in the Northern Division, no definite circle can be taken for draft publication and final publication. It was therefore only in the Central Division, in which complete khas villages had been draft-published, that final publication could be undertaken. During the year 97 such villages were finally published, covering an area of 19·84 square miles. None had been finally published in the previous year. Copies were made of all the khatians for the Collectorate; and this Collectorate copy was finally published. The 11 villages of the Palpara estate were published in draft and finally; also one mauza Ranigach of Gangamandal estate. The two villages Rampur and Panchora were draft published, and will be finally published as soon as possible.

18. As to the case-work under section 105 and section 106, undertaken after draft publication, there have been altogether 215 cases under section 105 instituted, all of which had been disposed of by the end of the year, and under section 106 there have been instituted

17 cases, all of which were disposed of by the end of the year, except one which was decided on the 2nd October 1896. It is noticeable that the amount of case-work under these heads is not very large; and among the 97 villages finally published there were only 116 objections under section 105, a little over one per village, and only nine disputes under section 106. But no inference must be drawn from these figures as to the prospects of the settlement as a whole. These were practically entirely khas villages, in which there were few interests involved and in which it was possible to get very substantial accuracy at the time of attestation. As for the future it is difficult to state whether the apathy of the villagers, or their instinctive litigiousness, will be the controlling factor over the number of cases. In the minor estates there were in Palpara 34 section 105 objections and 14 section 106 disputes; and in the Gangamandal villages only one section 105 objection filed on the 29th September 1896. All the Palpara cases were disposed of during the year and the Ganga Mandal case on the 3rd October 1896.

19. There was no expenditure under the head of survey during the year. The final adjustment with the Accountant-General shows the cost of survey for Chakla Roshnabad as follows:—

Financial year.			Cost of survey.	
			Rs.	
1893-94	...	...	...	68,901
1894-95	...	...	...	76,576
1895-96	...	...	...	49,409
Total			...	1,94,886

and under each estate—

			Rs.	
Chakla Roshnabad	...	...	...	1,94,886
Palpara	...	...	...	960
Gangamandal	...	...	...	240
Total			...	1,96,086

The survey cost was incorrectly entered in last year's report. The settlement cost of the three estates for the year was Rs. 67,490-0-3, and from the beginning Rs. 1,39,378-9-7. The following is the apportionment for each estate:—

ESTATES.			Settlement expenditure for the survey year 1895-96.	Settlement expenditure from the beginning
			Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Chakla Roshnabad	...	...	66,091 14 0	1,36,924 5 0
Palpara	...	...	990 15 8	1,688 3 1
Gangamandal	...	...	407 2 7	766 1 6
Total			67,490 0 3	1,39,378 9 7

Final adjustments have been made with the Accountant-General, Bengal, up to the 1st January 1896. The expenditure of survey and settlement in Chakla Roshnabad estate from the beginning is now Rs. 3,31,810 or 14·9 annas per acre. The cost rate was 9·7 annas per acre when I joined as Settlement Officer in October 1894, and reached the rate of 11·7 annas per acre after the season 1894-95. Against this expenditure the total credits to the Chakla Roshnabad settlement fund from the deposits of the Raj, from the transfer of Assam-Bengal Railway compensation money, and from miscellaneous sources amount to Rs. 2,46,217-5-1.

20. The attitude of the tenants is, as is to be understood from my previous remarks, one of expectancy. Both talukdars and raiyats have been less troublesome, partly through self-interest, partly because their confidence has been gained to some extent. There were two systematic outbreaks of obstruction; and the villagers concerned, who were acting under bad advice from those who should have known better, received a smart lesson which had a widespread, beneficial effect in making others a little more reasonable. Though the higher officials among the Raj authorities accorded a reasonable assistance, yet among the Raj subordinates there were many signs and instances of the same obstructive tactics which I have hitherto experienced at the hands of the tenants only. I would finally remark that I regret very much

that the Manager, Mr. McMinn, was detained for such a large portion of the year away from Comilla.

21. During the recess, besides case-work at Comilla, and at my camp at Mogra in the Northern Division, and attestation of tenure-holders' khatians, the office work consisted in the compilation of terijs, mauzawar khatians and abstract of terijs, and in the copying the records for final publication. The statistics of area and crops in the statistical statements Nos. I and IV were amalgamated pargana by pargana for the whole area. Khewats were written up for the whole estate. Notices were issued for draft and final publication; and notices under rule 19 were issued in respect of 175 villages attested during the last and the preceding field season. The number issued during the previous year was 291; and hence notices have been issued in 466 villages up to date. And the others will be issued by degrees in the beginning of the cold season. There is no hope of any village being draft-published straight off; applications under section 104 will in all probability be filed in every village. There is quite sufficient case-work pending from the institutions in 1895 to keep a separate case officer occupied for some time; but as I cannot too clearly point out, there is a hesitancy on the part of the Raj authorities to accumulate decided cases without any ratification of the principles already laid down in decided cases.

22. Assistance was given to Mr. Blackwood, the Assistant Collector at Comilla, for learning the principles and methods of survey and settlement. He was in camp with me and with one of my Assistant Settlement Officers for about three weeks, and also received instructions from time to time on survey.

23. In conclusion, I wish again to accord my acknowledgments to Mr. McMinn, the Manager of His Highness's estate. Babu Bisvesvar Bhattacharjee did his best in spite of illness; Babus Surjya Kumar Das, Moti Lal Roy, and Annada Charan Guha all worked hard in the field, and Babu Kailas Chandra Biswas warranted his promotion.

Collector's remarks on the Annual Report on the Chakla Roshnabad Settlement.

I would invite especial attention to paragraphs 13 and 14 of the report, in which Mr. Cumming discusses the institution of cases under section 104 of the Tenancy Act. It is to be regretted that greater efforts were not made on behalf of the estate to diminish the number of cases and to effect amicable settlements with the khas tenants. At the same time I fully concur with Mr. Cumming in considering it unfortunate for all sides that none of the appeals preferred to the Special Judge have yet been decided.

I would further emphasize Mr. Cumming's remarks contained in the last two sentences of each of his paragraphs 13, 14 and 20, and in the last sentence of his paragraph 21.

Mr. Cumming is to be congratulated on the success which has crowned his strenuous efforts to gain the confidence of the tenantry, and on the tactful manner in which he has succeeded in preventing friction and in diminishing ill-feeling; my thanks are due to him for this and for his very kindly supervising the initiation of Mr. Blackwood in the elements of survey and settlement.

A. RADICE,

Collector.

The 8th October 1896.

Statistical statement of status and Rent for villages attested during the year ending 30th September 1896.

ESTATE.	Division.	Sir LAND.			IN POSSESSION OF PROPRIETORS.			IN POSSESSION OF TENURE-HOLDERS.			RAIYATS AT FIXED RATES.						
		Number of hold-ings.	Area in acres.	Cultivated area in acres.	Number of hold-ings.	Total area in acres.	Cultivated area in acres.	Number of hold-ings.	Total area in acres.	Cultivated area in acres.	Number of hold-ings.	Total area in acres.	Cultivated area in acres.	Incidence of culti-vated area per holding in acres.	Total rent.	Average rent per acre of holding.	Incidence of rent per cultivated area.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Chakla, Rosh-nabad.	Northern Divi-sion. Central Divi-sion.	...	...	...	242	7,186	50	6,113	20,596	5,392	15	55	39	2'80	Rs. 67	Rs. A. P. 1 3 5	Rs. A. P. 1 11 5
		...	...	...	298	4,941	73	406	2,229	375	55	115	95	1'72	217	1 14 2	2 4 6

ESTATE.	Division.	SETTLED AND OCCUPANCY RAIYATS.							NON-OCCUPANCY RAIYATS.						
		Number of holdings.	Total area in acres.	Cultivated area in acres.	Incidence of cultiva-ted area per holding.	Total rent.	Average rent per acre of holding.	Incidence of rent per cultivated acre.	Number of holdings.	Total area in acres.	Cultivated area in acres.	Incidence of cultiva-ted area per holding.	Total rent.	Average rent per acre.	Incidence of rent per cultivated acre.
		19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Chakla Rosh-nabad.	Northern Divi-sion. Central Divi-sion.	48,231	59,583	48,708	1'01	Rs. 1,96,055	Rs. A. P. 3 4 7	Rs. A. P. 4 0 11	697	561	327	46	Rs. 1,013	Rs. A. P. 1 12 6	Rs. A. P. 3 1 5
		22,578	41,683	35,320	1'56	1,22,319	2 14 10	3 7 4	341	326	293	77	624	1 14 4	2 5 11

ESTATE.	Division.	IN POSSESSION OF UNASSESSED HOLDERS.							Under-raiyats.								
		Rent-free.			Service tenures.				Total area in acres.								
		Number of holdings.	Total area in acres.	Cultivated area in acres.	Number of holdings.	Total area in acres.	Cultivated area in acres.	Average area per hold-ing in acres.		Number of holdings.	Total area in acres.	Cultivated area in acres.	Incidence of cultiva-ted area per holding.	Total rent.	Average rent per acre.	Incidence of rent per cultivated acre.	REMARKS.
		33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
Chakla Rosh-nabad.	Northern Divi-sion. Central Divi-sion.	631	760	309	26	6	3	23	88,747	463	343	255	55	Rs. 1,084	Rs. A. P. 3 1 7	Rs. A. P. 4 3 2	
		273	418	163	2	3	1	1'50	49,715	754	389	310	41	1,495	3 12 9	4 12 9	

No. 5.—Return of Boundary Disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act for the year ending 30th September 1896.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF.			NUMBER REMAINING AT THE end OF THE YEAR.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
	To the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the pre-vious year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
J. G. Cumming, Esq., c.s. ...	125	...	125	117	6	123	2	...	...	...	...	...	...

No. 7.—Return of cases under section 104 of the Tenancy Act for settlement of fair Rents for the year ending 30th September 1896.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Area of circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF CASES INSTITUTED—			NUMBER OF CASES DISPOSED OF—			NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED—			Former rental of tenants included in column 11.	New rental of tenants included in column 11.	NUMBER OF DECISIONS APPEALED AGAINST TO SPECIAL JUDGE.			NUMBER OF APPEALS DECIDED—			NUMBER OF DECISIONS OF REVENUE OFFICER AS IN COLUMN 20.			REMARKS.
			To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.			To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<i>Chakla Roshnabad Estate.</i>																							
J. G. Cumming, Esq., C.S.	Northern Division.	...	5	45	50	...	7	7	...	83	83	Rs. 496	Rs. 742	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
J. G. Cumming, Esq. C.S. Babu Bisvesvar Bhattacharjee.	Central Division.	...	81	108	189	13	58	71	129	862	991	9,087	11,063	9	45	54	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		...	...	...	...	...	49	49	...	749	749	9,043	11,008	...	42	42	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total	...	86	153	239	13	114	127	129	1,634	1,823	18,576	22,813	9	89	98	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
J. G. Cumming, Esq. C.S. Babu Bisvesvar Bhattacharjee.	Gangaman-dal.	...	168	...	168	...	124	124	...	118	118	811	811	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		...	...	...	...	...	44	44	...	...	...	...	...	...	44	44	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
	Total	...	168	...	168	...	168	168	...	118	118	811	811	...	44	44	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Babu Bisvesvar Bhattacharjee.	Palpara	...	268	...	268	...	268	268	...	230	230	3,372	3,373	...	233	233	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Area of circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF CASES INSTITUTE—			NUMBER OF CASES DISPOSED OF—			NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED—			Former rental of tenants included in column II.	New rental of tenants included in column II.	NUMBER OF DECISIONS APPEALED AGAINST TO SPECIAL JUDGE.			NUMBER OF APPEALS DECIDED—			NUMBER OF DECISIONS OF REVENUE OFFICER AS IN COLUMN 20.			REMARKS.
			To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.			To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<i>Chakla Roshnabad Estate.</i>												Rs.	Rs.										
J. G. Cumming, Esq., C.S.	Northern Division.	...	56	456	512	...	181	181	...	174	174	2,629	5,280	...	11	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
J. G. Cumming, Esq., C.S.	Central Division.	...	13	12	25	3	10	13	3	10	13	208	249	1	3	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Babu Bisveswar Bhatta-charjea.		...	...	...	...	...	6	6	...	6	6	113	187	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total	...	69	468	537	3	197	200	3	190	193	3,150	5,716	1	14	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Babu Bisveswar Bhatta-charjea.	Palpara	...	1	...	1	...	1	1	...	1	1	20	20	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Nature of case.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF.			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.	
		Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—				
											Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
J. G. Cumming, Esq., C.S.	(1) Objections heard and considered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act. (2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	3	212	215	...	215	215	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Roshnabad estate. Palpara estate. Gangamandal estate (pending case decided on 3rd October 1896). Roshnabad estate (pending case decided on 2nd October 1896). Palpara estate.
		...	34	34	...	34	34	...	...	...	...	...	...		
		...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...		
		3	14	17	1	15	16	1	1	...	...	...	...		
		...	14	14	...	14	14	...	2	...	...	...	...		

No. 9.—Settlement Officer's Financial statement for the year ending 30th September 1896.

Main sub-heads of budget.	Expenditure to end of the previous year (against each sub-head).	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4
1. Pay and special allowance of— Settlement Officer Assistant Settlement Officer	...	Rs. A. P. 27,467 7 2 0,282 2 10	The expenditure for the year under report will not agree with the monthly totals from October 1895 to September 1896 on account of adjustments in the office of the Accountant-General, Bengal.
2. Fixed establishment	...	3,506 0 8	
3. Temporary establishment	...	18,652 5 4	
4. Contract and job work	...	601 5 9	
5. Travelling allowance of— Officers Establishment	...	2,363 10 6 572 14 0	
6. Supplies and services— Forms and stationery from the Superintendent of Stationery Cost of country stationery Tents Carriage of forms Petty construction Petty repairs	...	433 11 8 91 0 0 325 0 0 4 10 0 36 4 0 160 12 9	
7. Contingencies— Office expenses Hot weather charges Municipal rates and taxes Repair of tents Purchase and repair of furniture Service telegrams Printing at private Presses Postage charges Miscellaneous	...	146 13 9 24 6 3 19 12 0 186 4 0 210 2 9 26 5 0 454 14 8 70 14 6 1,132 9 5	
8. Unforeseen	...	1,720 9 2	
Total	71,888 9 4	67,490 0 3	

	Rs. A. P.
I.—Pay and allowances (including travelling allowance) of Settlement Officer	28,542 15 2
II.—Pay and travelling allowance of Head Office establishment	3,609 13 6
IV.—Attestation	...
V.—Case-work	...
VI.—Draft and final publication	30,392 1 7
VII.—Copying and Terij establishment	...
VIII.—Miscellaneous	5,045 2 0
Total	67,490 0 3

No. 10.—Statement showing the status and rents of tenants as recorded in the khatians from commencement of the year ending 30th September 1896.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LANDS.							REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Percentage of holdings to total.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class.	Percentage of area to total.	Average area per holding.	Rent.	Incidence of rent per cultivated acre.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. Proprietor's sir (nij jole)	540	68	123	13	23	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	
2. Held by proprietors, but not true sir	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders	6,009	826	5,767	633	67	...	...	
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents	70	60	135	15	193	284	2 1 7	
5. Settled raiyats	70,809	8851	84,029	9223	118	3,18,34	3 11 2	
6. Occupancy raiyats	1,038	129	500	65	57	1,638	2 12 9	
7. Non-occupancy raiyats	932	117	475	52	51	...	...	
8. Rent-free holders	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Total	79,998	...	91,119	...	...	3,20,296	...	
9. Under-raiyats	1,217	...	565	...	46	2,579	4 9 0	

J. G. CUMMING,
Settlement Officer.

LAND REVENUE.

RESOLUTION—No. 1207.

Letter No. 85A., dated the 16th January 1897, from the Board of Revenue, submitting the reports of the Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture on Settlements and Land Records, and the Superintendent of Settlement-Surveys on Surveys, in Bengal, for the year ending the 30th September 1896.

The reports.

Charge and inspection.

General results of 1895-96.

inclusive of Bihar, 9,580 square miles; and (3) for survey and records of rights in wards' estates, 821 square miles,—making a grand total of 19,142 square miles, as compared with 18,445 square miles in the preceding year. The following statement shows the general outturn and cost of survey-settlement work during the year under report and during the preceding three years:—

YEAR.	Traverse survey.	Skeleton boundary survey.	Topographical survey.	Cadastral survey.	Record-writing.	Cost of survey.	Cost of settlement.	Total cost.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1892-93	Sq. M.	Sq. M.	Sq. M.	Sq. M.	Sq. M.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1892-93	5,324	1,247	.....	3,078	2,930	7,88,509	5,00,901	12,89,410
1893-94	3,483	175	.....	3,754	3,637	6,90,125	5,53,228	12,43,353
1894-95	3,091	23	1,026	2,786	3,120	6,04,394	6,97,135	13,01,529
1895-96	2,151	187	.....	2,429	2,473	4,29,091	10,00,017	14,29,108
Total	14,031	1,632	1,026	12,047	12,165	25,11,829	27,51,341	52,63,170

The Superintendent of Settlement-Surveys has explained in detail the reasons for the variation in cost rates of the survey operations of this year in different districts and for the same district in successive years.

4. The following table shows the survey work done in each district in Bihar season by season from the commencement of the operations in 1891:—

	TRAVERSE SURVEY.		CADASTRAL SURVEY.		RECORD-WRITING.		Total cost of cadastral survey and record-writing.	COST RATE PER SQUARE MILE.			Cost of survey and record-writing per acre.	Expenditure on settlement.
	Area in square miles.	Cost.	Number of villages.	Area in square miles.	Number of villages.	Area in square miles.		Traverse survey.	Cadastral survey and record-writing (approximate).	Total cost (approximate).		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Muzaffarpur.	1891-92	Rs. 1,247	43,200	.....	.....	.....	Rs. 34'7	Rs. 34'7	Rs. 132'1	Rs. 190'7	Nearly 5	Rs. 34,301
	1892-93	997	38,513	1,153	529	1,052	468	76,413	38'6	.....	Over 3	58,079
	1893-94	Nil	6,805	1,594	979	1,365	788	1,27,045	.....	146'3	Nearly 3	.....
	Original work ...	.....	2,340	664	658	987	983	1,19,078	.....	139'3	Over 3	.....
	Revision of Colonel Barron's survey.	.....	.....	650	410	650	410	45,763	.....	129'8	Over 3	1,28,348
	Revision survey of Raj Darbhanga villages.	.....	.....	8	14	5	7	580	.....	73	Nearly 2	.....
	Original work ...	20	991	433	452	433	452	79,690	82'53	172'31	Over 6	.....
	Revision of maps and records of 1892-93.	.....	.....	9	7	9	7	503	.....	72'37	Nearly 2	.....
	Revision of maps and records of 1879-79.	.....	.....	3	7	3	7	1,074	.....	157'00	Nearly 4	1,30,057
												
Champa-	1891-92	363	12,621	.....	.....	.....	.....	34'7	.....	.....	Nearly 3	21,800
	1892-93	1,103	30,654	944	416	234	320	41,182	27'8	109'1	Over 4	70,141*
	1893-94	1,320	50,498	325	617	354	549	74,484	38'3	122'2	Over 4	128,223
	1894-95	126	3,205	1,438	1,162	1,058	1,176	1,56,858	65'2	131'	Nearly 4	2,22,472
	1895-96	386	9,372	1,047	1,185	1,047	1,185	1,23,109	24'08	103'83	Over 3	3,63,294
Saran	1892-93	894	34,527	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,368	38'6	.....	Nearly 4	.....
	1893-94	932	34,273	1,260	549	1,229	527	65,200	36'8	119'2	Over 5	36,480
	1894-95	516	15,233	.....	.....	.....	.....	10,287	29'5	.....	Over 5	62,135
	1895-96	52	3,304	1,204	645†	1,234	669	93,548	56'00	147'17	Over 5	.....
Darbhanga.	1893-94	518	16,340	.....	.....	.....	.....	31'6	.....	.....	Over 3	.....
	1894-95	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Over 3	.....
	1895-96	1,179	27,344	14	16	14	16	1,678	23'20	103'37	Over 3	Cost included in Muzaffarpur.
9,653		3,34,697	9,616	7,546	9,674	7,567	10,15,870	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	1891-92	1,610	55,891	.....	.....	.....	.....	35	.....	.....	As.	.....
	1892-93	2,994	1,03,696	1,397	945	1,236	786	1,19,961	35	139	Nearly 4	56,101
	1893-94	2,770	1,07,916	3,179	2,045	2,948	1,914	2,63,739	39	132	Over 4	1,28,223
	1894-95	642	26,283	2,380	2,244	2,700	2,531	3,39,583	40	137	Nearly 4	2,22,472
	1895-96	1,637	40,911	2,710	2,312	2,740	2,336	2,39,602	46	126	„ 4	3,63,294
9,653		3,34,697	9,616	7,546	9,674	7,567	10,15,870	.....	.....	.....	.....	7,70,000

(* Including Saran.)

† Includes 28 square miles of Majhuli Ward's Estate, and excludes 11 square miles of river areas actually surveyed, but which, owing to the midstream boundary belong to the North-Western Provinces.

The statement given below shows the total survey work done up to the 30th September 1896, and remaining to be done on that date in each district:—

District.	Total area of district.	AREAS COMPLETED.			AREAS REMAINING.		
		Traverse survey.	Cadastral survey.	Record-writing.	Traverse survey.	Cadastral survey.	Record-writing.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Muzaffarpur ..	3,070	3,059	3,062	3,063	Nil	Nil	Nil
Champan ..	3,575	3,298	3,280	3,280	Nil(a)	Nil(a)	Nil(a)
Saran ...	2,622	2,394	1,194	1,194	228	1,428	1,428
Darbhanga ...	3,233	1,697	16	16	1,536	3,217	3,217
Total ...	12,500	10,448	7,552	7,553	1,764	4,645	4,645

(a) The jungly area, approximately 290 square miles, to the north of the district is not for survey.

The Superintendent reports that, as in previous years, the voluntary attendance of the raiyats was indifferent, but he attributes this in the majority of cases to the action of the petty landlords, who, according to Captain Crichton, endeavoured to keep the raiyats from coming forward to claim possession of lands to which these petty maliks prefer fraudulent claims themselves. Once the raiyats were induced to attend, they took a keen interest in the proceedings and were anxious to obtain their *parchas*.

The survey operations in the Muzaffarpur and Champan districts have now been completed, with the exception of an approximate area of 290 square miles in the north of the latter district, which has been excluded from the survey operations. The total expenditure from 1891-92 in these two districts has been as follows:—

	Traverse survey.	Cadastral.	Record-writing.	Other heads.	City survey.	TOTAL.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Muzaffarpur ...	Rs. 92,441	Rs. 2,02,865	Rs. 2,63,678	Rs. 2,094	Rs. 4,060	Rs. 5,65,138
Champan ...	1,11,230	2,13,043	1,76,521	3,079	160	5,04,633

The cost rate of the entire operations per square mile is shown in the statement below:—

DISTRICT.			Traverse, including stone embedding.	Cadastral survey, kharanpuri, completion of records, &c.	Total cost per acre.
Muzaffarpur ...	...	...	Rs. 30.21	Rs. 152.33	4½ annas.
Champan ...	...	...	33.72	118.76	4 annas nearly.

In the Saran district there were 52 square miles traversed, leaving 228 square miles remaining, or 240, including 12 square miles in the Gandak diara, and 645 square miles were cadastrally surveyed, leaving 1,425 square miles still to be done. In the Darbhanga district 1,179 square miles were traversed and 16 square miles were cadastrally surveyed during the year. Of the 1,536 square miles still left for traverse survey, about 640 were surveyed by Mr. Finucane, i.c.s., in 1878-79, but the records then made have not been kept corrected up to date. The Darbhanga Raj, however, has asked for a complete resurvey

of all these villages; and the Director, in anticipation of the Board's orders, requested the Superintendent of Settlement-Surveys to arrange for the traverse of all the Darbhanga Raj villages in areas not dealt with during the present survey operations, and to prepare new maps for all villages in which Mr. Finucane's maps have not up to date been revised. The Board have submitted a report to Government regarding these proposals, which have been approved.

5. The following statement shows the work done in each district from the commencement of the settlement proceedings:—

Bihar Settlement.

	ATTESTATION.				DRAFT RECORDS PUB- LISHED.	SETTLEMENT OF FAIR RENTS UNDER SECTION 104.			CASES UNDER SECTION 105.		CASES UNDER SECTION 106.		FINAL RECORDS PUB- LISHED.
	Area in square miles.	Number of villages.	Number of plots.	Number of tenancies.	Number of villages.	Number of cases disposed of.	Number of tenants affected.	Rents raised or lowered by decisions up to date.	Number of objec- tions filed.	Number of objec- tions disposed of.	Number instituted.	Number disposed of.	Number of villages.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Muzaffarpur { 1892-93 ...	66'	320	119,821	35,799	311	66	713	+8'47	926	868	363	187	.....
1893-94 ...	376'	712	487,099	150,069	696	117	2,273		3,235	3,029	952	840	.....
1894-95 ...	746'40	1,361	1,150,745	279,094	1,265	435	2,646		7,492	6,568	808	870	768
1895-96 ...	1,319'43	1,633	2,083,028	453,038	1,541	1,859	3,862		10,817	7,697	685	315	1,161
Champanan { 1892-93 ...	46'43	76	34,340	7,774	75	38	1,385	+9'34	48	48	40	27	.....
1893-94 ...	380'	185	323,511	61,622	185	184	15,720		2,356	2,226	206	205	.....
1894-95 ...	491'46	376	470,660	73,695	316	323	17,896		1,690	1,097	320	328	247
1895-96 ...	1,162'	1,075	1,358,793	193,611	632	1,029	34,633		4,123	3,971	393	322	372
Saran { 1893-94 ...	19'	68	33,155	5,130	68	33	426	+12'95	1,054	947	41	31	.....
1894-95 ...	487'41	1,160	749,533	125,315	265	1,787	19,783		415	98	25	21	57
1895-96 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	867	1,385	21,729		9,487	7,143	116	22	11
Total { 1892-93 ...	112'43	396	154,161	43,573	386	104	2,008	.....	974	916	405	214	.....
1893-94 ...	775'	955	843,765	216,221	949	334	18,419	.....	6,625	6,202	1,199	1,074	.....
1894-95 ...	1,725'26	2,897	2,350,938	478,014	1,846	2,645	40,325	.....	9,597	7,763	1,151	1,219	1,072
1895-96 ...	2,431'43	2,708	3,441,819	651,649	3,049	4,273	60,224	.....	23,450	18,311	1,194	659	1,544
GRAND TOTAL ...	5,094'12	6,966	6,720,683	1,389,437	6,221	7,256	121,066	.....	41,626	33,692	3,947	3,166	2,616

6. Mr. P. C. Lyon was in charge of the operations in Muzaffarpur up to the 15th February, and Mr. C. J. Stevenson-Moore from that date to the 7th July. After Mr. Stevenson-

Muzaffarpur.

Moore's departure on special leave, Mr. R. B. Hughes, the Assistant Settlement Officer, was in charge. Mr. Hughes corresponded directly with the Director. The Director has brought to notice that the bulk of the work of direction and supervision fell upon this officer. In all, 21 Settlement and Assistant Settlement Officers were deputed for various periods during the year. The programme of the year was the supervision of record-writing and disposal of boundary disputes in an area of 445 square miles, the attestation of the records of 1,664 villages, covering an area of 1,341 square miles, the disposal of petitions, the completion of the records after the disposal of case work, and the initiation of proceedings for the computation and recovery of costs. The progress made during the year was satisfactory. All the boundary disputes which arose and nearly 8,000 of the 22,000 disputes entered by the amins on their dispute lists, were disposed of. The survey and initial record-writing were completed, and attestation will be finished in the present season. It is satisfactory that 1,633 villages out of 1,649 taken up were attested, and the Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to notice the success with which this heavy work was accomplished. These villages covered an area of 1,319 square miles, and included more than two million plots and over four hundred thousand holdings. The records of all villages attested in previous years, and of 1,460, out of the 1,633 attested during the year under report, were published in draft, and 1,161 records were finally published in the course of the year. There were 2,307 applications made under section 104 of the Tenancy Act for the settlement of fair rents, and 1,859 of these were disposed of. The rents of 3,862 tenants

were settled, their rents being raised from Rs. 29,276 to Rs. 31,826, giving an increase of 8·7 per cent. on the previous rentals of these particular tenants. This enhancement was due to the assessment of new cultivation. There were 4,128 objections under section 105 pending at the close of the year, but it is reported that they are being actively disposed of. It is also stated that special officers are now engaged to deal with the arrears of cases under section 106. The general principles of computation and recovery of the costs of the survey and record of rights were approved by the Board and by Government in the course of the year, and the Lieutenant-Governor notices with much pleasure the satisfactory results of the beginnings made in the recovery of costs in this district. He agrees with the Director that the promptitude with which the landlords and raiyats have paid the sums due from them is evidence that they attach value to the extracts relating to their estates and holdings that have been furnished to them. Out of Rs. 21,443 due from landlords, Rs. 17,766 were paid voluntarily and Rs. 1,548 were realised by certificates, leaving a balance of Rs. 2,129; while out of Rs. 15,062 due from tenants, Rs. 14,654 were paid voluntarily and only Rs. 84 were realised by certificates, leaving a balance of Rs. 324 outstanding at the close of the year. As regards the realization of the cost, the settlement officer writes :—

“The procedure is simple: convenient centres are chosen, and notices are served in all the surrounding villages fixing days for their attendance; at the same time a schedule is sent to each village, setting forth the amount due from every payee in it. When the Assistant Settlement Officer goes to the centre, he erects a bamboo enclosure and site in the middle of it surrounded by his tahsildars, who collect the money, give the receipts and the certified copies of the khatians. At the close of each day they hand in their money and accounts to the cashier, who counts the money and deposits it in the treasure chest that night, and writes up his account next day.

Babu Siva Sanker Singh had collected in the thanas of Hajipur and Mahuwa, by the end of May, almost entirely without the adoption of coercive measures, Rs. 31,802-8-9 out of a demand of Rs. 36,504-10-11. He thus left a balance of Rs. 4,702-2-2 to be collected from head-quarters, and Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur, the Assistant Settlement Officer at head-quarters, was vested with powers under the Certificate Act for the purpose. The balance at the end of the year is Rs. 2,453-13-2, or rather more than 7 per cent. of the total demand. We have thus succeeded in collecting more than the 85 per cent. mentioned in my letter to Director of Land Records and Agriculture, No. 84B of 6th July 1896. The principal difficulty has been to obtain payments from the numerous petty maliks whose shares are often not more than a few annas. They show the same apathy in payment to us as they do in payment of Road and Public Works cesses in the Collectorate. On the other hand, no difficulty has been found in obtaining payment of the occupier's share, only Rs. 109-3-6 in Hajipur and Rs. 215-4 in Mahuwa being still outstanding. The smallness of the arrears afford a most striking proof of the popularity of the record. Other proofs are not wanting. The Subdivisional Magistrate of Hajipur has informed Mr. Hughes that the certified copies of the record which have been thus distributed are frequently filed before him, and Mr. Hughes has himself received several complaints from raiyats that, though the raiyats of neighbouring villages had obtained their khatians, they had not been so fortunate. Several enquiries have been made at head-quarters lately also, by proprietors and others, as to whether their certified copies were obtainable at head-quarters on payment.”

It appears that rent rates run high, but His Honour agrees with the Director and the Board that the full discussion of them must be postponed until complete figures for each thana are available. On the question of the rates in this district, the Settlement Officer observes :—

“Turning to the rates of rent, we find, as might be expected, that the rent of raiyats at fixed rates is lowest, viz., Rs. 3-8, including the rent of cultivated and uncultivated land. Next come occupancy raiyats with a rent rate of Rs. 4-3-2 for all lands held by them. Non-occupancy raiyats pay at the rate of Rs. 5-1-3, and under-raiyats a still higher rent of Rs. 5-3-11.”

Whatever may be the cause, there can be no question of the fact that these, all-round rates are very high.

As the Board, in their letter to Government, have stated, the crop statistics are manifestly incorrect, for it is clearly impossible that 454,114 acres, or 32 per cent. of the cultivated area of the district, should be sown with indigo. A tenth of that area would probably be nearer the truth. The Settlement Officer has accepted these figures, and the officiating Director has passed them without question. In the report on the indigo crops for the year 1896 the average of the current and preceding year's crops is shown as 65,500 acres. The Lieutenant-Governor would draw the Director's special attention to these discrepant figures,

and request him to submit an explanation of them. The Board remark that the entry of 68 acres under coffee is probably a mistake; but the Settlement Officer states it is said to be cultivated in Muhammadan villages entirely for home consumption. Rice is shown as occupying 40 per cent. of the cropped area, and after rice and indigo, "other food-grains" come next, followed by marua and maize. It is worthy of note that out of a total area of 3,035 square miles there are, excluding current fallow and mango groves, only 141 square miles available for fresh cultivation. On the effect of partitions in running up rents, the Settlement Officer remarks:—

"Four statements were submitted—the first containing extracts from the village notes written by 14 different Assistant Settlement Officers at the time of attestation; the second a statement showing the rent rates obtaining in estates which had undergone *butwara*; the third was a comparative statement for estates surveyed *ijnali* in 1885 by Mr. Collin, and now revised after partitions had been given effect to; while the fourth showed for certain estates which are pending partition in the Muzaffarpur Butwara office, and the records of which had been prepared *ijnali* by us, comparative figures of areas held by proprietors and raiyats, and of raiyat's rent as entered in the landlord's *jamabandi* filed in the batwara office, as found by the Deputy Collector's rate statement and as attested.

"Commenting on these four statements, the conclusion was irresistible that batwaras are the cause of very considerable enhancements of rent, and of dispossession of raiyats of their lands to some extent. From the information derived from the village notes, it appears that, after batwara, enhancements varying from 2 annas in the rupee to more than double the former rates invariably take place. At the same time the rates in estates in which batwara had taken place were found to be 3 to 22 per cent. higher than the total rates for 50 villages taken at random in each thana."

From the beginning of the operations only 17 appeals were preferred to the Special Judge against the decisions of Settlement Officers in settling rents. In 11 their decisions were upheld, in four reversed, and in two modified.

7. Mr. P. C. Lyon was in charge in this district and of Saran till 7th November; Mr. E. G. Colvin from that date till 8th March, when Mr. C. J. Stevenson-Moore became

Champanan.

Settlement Officer of these districts as well as of Muzaffarpur. As in Muzaffarpur, after Mr. Stevenson-Moore's departure on special leave, the Assistant in charge corresponded directly with the Director. Eighteen Settlement and Assistant Settlement Officers were employed in the Champanan district for various periods during the year. The programme was similar to that in Muzaffarpur, but it is noted that the attestation work was simpler and the settlement of fair rents more onerous than in the former district. The survey and initial record-writing have been completed. There were 513 boundary disputes dealt with during the year. The records of 1,075 villages covering 1,162 square miles and containing over 1,300,000 plots were attested. The following statement shows the amount of work done in the settlement of fair rents from the beginning of operations according to the area attested in each year:—

YEAR.			Number of tenants for whom fair rents were settled.	Former rental.	Fair rent settled.	Enhancement.	Percentage of enhancement.
1			2	3	4	5	6
1893-94	...	...	22,151	Rs. 1,44,556	Rs. 1,62,636	Rs. 18,080	12.50
1894-95	...	...	12,850	1,09,276	1,20,028	10,752	9.83
1895-96	...	...	34,633	3 69,366	3,98,762	29,396	7.9
Total	...	...	69,634	6,23,198	6,81,426	58,228	9.3

The Director states that practically the whole of the enhancement was due to the assessment of new cultivation, and was obtained by compromise. All such compromises were, it is said, carefully scrutinised by the Assistant Settlement Officers before being decreed. The work of publication of the records

was delayed on account of the large number of applications for the settlement of fair rents; 632 records were published in draft, and 372 finally, in the course of the year. Disposal of objections and cases under sections 105 and 106 was also delayed with the delay in draft publication: 3,971 objections and 322 disputes were dealt with during the year out of 4,829 and 401 for disposal. Owing to the necessity for adjusting the accounts of the season 1892-93, when advances were made by landlords to patwaris then working as amins, it was only possible to recover costs from raiyats, and not from landlords, during the year under report. It is satisfactory to find that the raiyats paid Rs. 36,452 voluntarily out of a total demand made from them of Rs. 38,125. The Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to learn that Mr. J. J. Macleod, C.I.E., has undertaken to bear the whole of the tenants' share of the costs in his villages. His Honour refrains from commenting on the statistics of status and rents of tenants until more complete figures are available. Statistics under these heads have so far been compiled for 931 villages, and crop statistics for 1,439 villages. Of the total cropped area in these villages, 49 per cent. is under rice. It is a remarkable fact that it is only in Champaran, where the raiyats are poorer and occupancy rights less widespread than elsewhere, that it is found that the tenants' lands are passing into the hands of money-lenders to any appreciable extent. In this district no less than nearly 9 per cent. of the tenants' holdings have been sold or mortgaged within the last 10 years, 40 per cent. of the transferees being money-lenders, while in Muzaffarpur only a very small percentage of the holdings was transferred by sale in the same period, and the transferees were for the most part raiyats.

8. Six Assistant Settlement Officers were employed in this district for various periods during the year. The Director remarks that through neglect of the scheme of work prepared by the Superintendent of Settlement-Surveys, only slight progress was made in initial record-writing until the season was far advanced, and the work had to be hurried at the end. In all 1,235 villages, covering 668 square miles, were dealt with, and all the boundary disputes instituted (765 in number) were disposed of. The draft records of 867 villages were published, but there was no final publication of the records of the villages attested in 1894-95. The rents of 21,729 tenants were settled, giving an increase of rent from Rs. 2,25,414 to Rs. 2,54,415, or 12.86 per cent. Practically the whole of this enhancement was, it is reported, due to assessment of new cultivation, and was obtained by compromise. The large number of objections under section 105 instituted by the Hatwa Raj is an unsatisfactory feature of the year's proceedings; three-fourths of these objections were rejected, and the Officiating Director states that many of them were patently frivolous. Now that these estates are under the management of the Court of Wards, it may be hoped that these frivolous objections will cease to be made. There were in all 9,487 such cases filed during the year; 7,143 were dealt with and 2,748 were pending at the close of the year. Apparently 176 appeals have been preferred to the Special Judge against the Settlement Officer's decisions, but none of them has been yet disposed of. The statistics of status and rents of raiyats, and of cultivation and crops, are not yet sufficiently advanced for any definite conclusions to be drawn from them.

9. The expenditure on the operations in North Bihar was as follows:—

	SURVEY.		SETTLEMENT.		TOTAL.	
	During the year.	To end of September 1896.	During the year.	To end of September 1896.	During the year.	To end of September 1896.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Muzaffarpur (a) ...	1,02,317	5,65,138	1,80,057	3,66,477	2,82,374	9,31,615
Champaran ...	1,32,541	5,04,633	1,21,102	2,48,916	2,53,643	7,52,949
Saran ...	97,130	2,59,021	62,135	98,595	1,59,265	3,57,616
Darbhangha ...	29,022	45,362	.....	.....	29,022	45,362
Total ...	3,61,010	13,73,554	3,63,294	7,13,968	7,24,304	20,87,543

(a) Including the cost of survey of Muzaffarpur town and Hajipur Municipality.

The recoveries made in the Muzaffarpur and Champaran districts have been noted in former paragraphs.

10. In paragraph 16 of the Resolution on the Survey and Settlement Reports for 1894-95, Sir Charles Elliott recorded the opinion that the operations should be extended to South Bihar and into the Bhagalpur Division. Sir Alexander Mackenzie, in January 1896, requested the Board to consider this question and submit a special report after consulting the Director of Land Records, the Commissioners of the Patna and Bhagalpur Divisions, and the local officers. The reply of the Board has not yet been received, but the Officiating Director reports that the recommendation of the Department is that the proceedings should not at present be extended beyond that portion of Monghyr district that lies north of the Ganges.

11. At the commencement of the year the settlement operations in Balasore were held as a distinct charge from those in Orissa Settlement. Cuttack and Puri; but with effect from 1st February 1896, Mr. S. L. Maddox was appointed Settlement Officer of Orissa, with Mr. J. E. Webster, Mr. D. H. Kingsford and Mr. W. B. Thomson as Assistant Settlement Officers in charge, respectively, of Cuttack, Puri and Balasore. The programme for the year in Orissa included (1) the revision of the maps and records of the Khurda settlement of 1875-76, (2) the settlement of boundary disputes, (3) attestation and re-attestation work, and (4) the settlement of rents.

(1) The whole work of revision of the Khurda survey and settlement records was completed, the records of 1,342 villages, covering 913 square miles, being dealt with. The records will be attested and rents settled in the course of the present year.

(2) There were 64 pending boundary disputes and 205 were instituted during the year, all being concerned with the Balasore district. Two hundred and ten cases were disposed of, and in five out of seven appeals decided, the Revenue Officer's decision was upheld.

(3) Nineteen officers in all were employed in attestation work during the year. The following statement shows the progress made under this head:—

				Outturn in 1895-96.		Balance at close of 1895-96.		
1				2	3	4	5	6
				Villages.	Plots.	Area.	Villages.	Area.
Cuttack	...	...	...	1,028	1,022,925	495 29	19	471
Balasore	...	...	...	686	232,765	235 84	.....	.....
Puri	{	Ekrajat	...	78	28,543	75 93	40	14 96
		Khurda	...	48	22,988	18 01	1,294	895 46

The Director states that all the arrears will be disposed of during the present season, the attestation in Khurda being done together with the settlement of rents. Re-attestation forms a large item of work which must be done before rents can be settled; and although the Director cannot give exact figures, he is of opinion that 11 lakhs of plots in Puri and 9 lakhs in Cuttack will require to be re-attested. During the year under report this work was completed for 861 villages containing over 650,000 plots. In future an effort will be made to complete re-attestation in the camps of officers deputed to settle rents, and rules for the procedure to be adopted have been drawn up by Mr. Maddox.

(4) The settlement of rents constitutes the bulk of the work now remaining to be done before revenue can be assessed. On this subject the Officiating Director remarks as follows:—

"Mr. Stevens and I left Calcutta on the morning of the 14th March, and returned on the 2nd April, after visiting Cuttack, Khurda, Bhadrak and Balasore. During our stay

in Orissa a series of draft rules were framed, based mainly on the suggestions made by Mr. Finucane in his note of December 1893, on Mr. Nathan's proposals for the Kotdesh pargana. This note had also formed the basis of Mr. Maddox's work in Balasore, which was followed to a great extent in the draft rules. The main principles on which they were drawn up have been thus summarised by Government:—

- (a) That in the case of the *pahi* raiyats of Orissa (whose rents the zamindars were empowered to enhance, and did enhance during the past 60 years), the existing rents should be taken as fair rents, unless applications be made by the zamindar for enhancement or by the raiyats for reduction.
- (b) That in the case of *thani* raiyats, whose rents have not been altered during the term of the last settlement, rents should be proposed to them which would be somewhat lower than the competition rents paid by *pahi* raiyats; that the rents so proposed, if accepted by the raiyats, should be recorded as the fair rents with their consent; and that, if the rents proposed be not accepted, then the fair rents should be settled in accordance with the provisions of Chapter X of the Tenancy Act, following the Civil Procedure Code and Tenancy Act Rules, enhancements being mainly based on the great rise in prices that has taken place since the existing rents were fixed 60 years ago.
- (c) That in the case of *baziaftidars* and similar privileged tenants, rent should be proposed in a similar manner, which would be somewhat lower than those fixed for non-privileged tenants, and be, if accepted, recorded as fair. If not accepted, rents are to be settled strictly in accordance with the procedure laid down in Chapter X of the Tenancy Act and the Government rules made under it."

* * * * *

"The results of the work done up to the close of the year have been fully analysed in the instructive statistical statements that have been submitted by the Settlement Officer with his report. The progress made may be summarised as follows:—

Number of villages in which rents have been settled	...	1,410
„ of tenants for whom „ „	...	177,188
„ of „ whose existing rents have been settled as the fair-rents	... ..	91,808
„ of „ newly assessed	... ..	8,131
„ of „ whose rents have been enhanced for excess area	... ..	29,519
„ of „ whose rents have been reduced for decrease in area	... ..	3,842
„ of „ whose rents have been enhanced for other reasons	... ..	43,888
„ of new rentals accepted by the tenants	... ..	16,323
„ of „ contested „	... ..	865

"It was only in two circles that there was any opposition to our procedure, and in one of these the tenants were notorious litigants, who had for long been on bad terms with their landlord. But in both these circles the opposition soon quieted down when our methods of settlement began to be understood. The statistics showing the amount of enhancement in the case of each class of tenant do not show the working of our present rules quite accurately, as some of the work was done under Mr. Maddox's original scheme, and some classes have been affected by recent modifications in the rules."

The operation of the rules led to an enhancement of not less than 12 or more than 20 per cent.

Since the close of the year Sir Alexander Mackenzie, accompanied by the Senior Member of the Board of Revenue and the Director, Mr. Macpherson, has visited Orissa, and, after holding a conference with the local officers, His Honour made some modifications in the details of the rules based on the principles described by the Officiating Director.

12. The question of the maintenance of the records of rights in Orissa is now under the consideration of the Lieutenant-Governor. The Board have addressed Government on the subject very recently, submitting a scheme prepared by Mr. Maddox,

which follows the lines approved by the Conference which assembled in Calcutta in December 1893. Mr. Lyon, in his letter forwarding the scheme to the Board, questioned whether the very heavy expenditure to be incurred in keeping up the records would be attended by such corresponding advantages as to justify it. The Board consulted Mr. Macpherson, who stated as his opinion that "it is right that rent-rolls should be continuously maintained in village offices as an education to the people and as a protection of the weak against the strong." The Board have also forwarded the notes containing the views held by Mr. Toynbee and Mr. Stevenson, who were consulted by them. The Hon'ble Mr. Stevens, Senior Member of the Board, "is inclined to question whether commensurate results, as regards either the maintenance of the record or the general assistance in the executive administration, will be found to justify the very heavy additional expenditure. To have short periods of settlement, and to correct the records on the expiry of each of these periods, would certainly be simpler and less harassing to the people, and it does not seem probable that the changes in the meanwhile would be so great as to make it difficult to trace them."

Sir Alexander Mackenzie is disposed to think that the advantages of keeping the records corrected from year to year will more than counterbalance the expense, and he will now submit the scheme for the consideration and orders of the Government of India, together with proposals relating to the percentage of the assets to be taken as revenue and the period of settlement.

13. The expenditure incurred on settlement operations in Orissa during the year amounted to Rs. 90,099 in Balasore and Rs. 2,19,862 in Cuttack and Puri, making a total of Rs. 3,09,962, as against Rs. 1,93,409 (revised figures) in the preceding year. The amount expended on the survey-settlement operations in Orissa, from the commencement of proceedings up to 30th September 1896, has been Rs. 10,35,294 on survey and Rs. 11,11,674 on settlement, giving a total of Rs. 21,46,968.

14. Mr. C. G. H. Allen took over charge of the post of Settlement Officer in November 1895, and remained in charge for the rest of the year. Steady progress was made in the work of assessment, and the subsidiary work of publication of records, hearing of objections and trial of disputes were also carried on. The whole area of the district is 2,492 square miles, of which 1,910 square miles, containing 1,039 villages, are under settlement. Of these villages, assessment has now been completed for 695, and the draft records of 610 and the final records of 507 villages have been published. During the year 4,047 objections and 37 disputes were dealt with. Assessment of the rents of 106,719 tenants had been made in preceding years, and that of 71,067 tenants was made during the year under report. Existing rates of rent have been maintained, unless proved to be collusively unfair. Rents of raiyats have been increased as a rule on account of excess area only. The rents of talukdars and ijaradars have been so determined as to leave them 30 per cent. of the assets. Mr. Allen states that there have been practically no appeals to the Special Judge on the ground of excessive enhancements. The general result has been to raise the Government revenue by Rs. 1,40,342, representing an increase of 47 per cent. on the previous revenue of Rs. 2,98,378. If this rate be maintained in the remaining assessments, the total enhancements due to resettlement may be expected to reach Rs. 1,81,000. Though the increase of revenue is large, the Director states that he has learned that the new revenue is being collected without opposition or difficulty, than which there can be no better proof of the moderation of the assessment. The whole validity of the settlement proceedings was contested in the Rajakul case. The Special Judge found for Government on all points, and it appears that no appeal has yet been made against this decision. Having regard to the great complications of tenures in Chittagong, and consequent difficulty of making a workable settlement, the results, though necessarily expensive, appear to the Lieutenant-Governor to be very satisfactory.

15. The following statement shows in a convenient form the progress of work in the Chittagong district up to the close of the year 1895-96 :—

	RECORD-WRITING.		ATTESTATION.				MAHAL MILAN.	SETTLEMENT OF FAIR RENTS.			
	Khasra-writing in the field ; number of villages.	Khasra-writing and completion of records in office ; number of villages.	Villages.	Square miles.	Tenants.	Plots.	Number of villages.	Number of tenants.	Former rental.	New rental.	Percentage of increase.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Up to end of 1892-93 ...	1,033	1,033	914	1,544.57	687,076	2,386,283	143	11,891	Rs.	Rs. ....	.....
During 1893-94 ...	.....	.....	116	233.84	72,036	319,609	377	13,463	.....	.....	.....
1894-95 ...	3	3	3	19.25	1,000	4,338	240	80,997	.....	.....	.....
„ 1895-96 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	185	71,067	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	1,036	1,036	1,033	1,847.66	760,112	2,710,230	945	177,418	4,13,815	5,61,048	35.5

CASE-WORK, EXCLUDING CASES UNDER SECTION 104 OF THE BENGAL TENANCY ACT.							Number of villages of which the draft records were published.	Number of villages of which the records were finally published.	Cost of settlement.
Boundary disputes.		Objections under section 105.		Disputes under section 106.					
Total instituted.	Total disposed of.	Total instituted.	Total disposed of.	Total instituted.	Total disposed of.				
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
Up to end of 1892-93 ...	2,575	2,418	87,759	77,635	3,634	3,533	Permanently-settled estates in 312 vil- lages. Noabad taluks in 77 villages. Permanently-settled estates in 273 vil- lages. Noabad taluks in 280 villages. 283 villages.	Permanently-settled estates in 75 villages. Noabad taluks in 48 villages. Permanently-settled estates in 304 vil- lages. Noabad taluks in 191 villages. 253 villages.*	Rs. 3,85,055
During 1893-94 ...	240	285	2,541	1,903	76	61			1,37,693
„ 1894-95 ...	.....	233	4,456	4,559	32	34			1,40,407
„ 1895-96 ...	.....	.....	4,208	4,047	24	37			1,48,283
Total ...	2,815	2,936	98,964	88,144	3,766	3,665	Permanently-settled estates in 535 villages. Noabad taluks in 640 villages.	Permanently-settled estates in 379 villages. Noabad taluks in 591 villages.	Total ... 8,11,438

* The total number of villages in which records were finally published previous to 1895-96 is stated in the present report to be 253.

16. In accordance with the orders of Government such portions of the external boundaries of the *khalsa mauzas* of the Palamau Government estate. Palamau Government estate as had not been surveyed in previous seasons were traversed during the year. The Lieutenant-Governor agrees with the Board that the Commissioner should notice every year in his Land Revenue Administration Report that the six feet clearing along the old revenue survey boundaries has been attended to. There were 141 square miles traversed in the course of the year. The assessment has been conducted under the provisions of Act VIII (B.C.) of 1879. The settlement work of the year consisted of the assessment of the new revenue. The general result is to fix a rental of Rs. 74,433, giving an enhancement of Rs. 17,767 or 31.35 per cent. over the attested existing rental, and of Rs. 33,591 or 82 per cent. over the rental of the last settlement. The Lieutenant-Governor, in approving the rate report, directed that the assessment should be applied with moderation, and that the tenants should be treated with consideration and

leniency. This settlement has been made for 15 years, and it has been decided to abandon the old thikadari system and to hold the estate khas. An additional assessment of Rs. 3,444 has been made on *mohua* trees, and a temporary settlement for one year of Rs. 10,440 on *palas* and *kusum* trees.

17. The 946 estates or jotes for resettlement in the Darjeeling Terai were surveyed in 1894-95. During the year under report the records were attested, and a rate report was submitted to Government, which has been approved by the Lieutenant-Governor since the close of the year. The proposals involve an increase of 25 per cent. on the revenue.

18. The traverse survey only of this estate is being conducted by the Superintendent of Settlement-Surveys, the cadastral survey being undertaken by the Settlement Officer, Mr. Craven. The entire area was originally estimated to be about 1,423 square miles, but this is reported by the Superintendent to be incorrect, as 1,175 square miles were traversed in 1894-95, and the work was completed this year by the traversing of 229 square miles. The true area cannot be ascertained, however, till the detail survey has been completed. The total expenditure in 1894-95 was Rs. 35,954, and during the year under report Rs. 11,253. The cost rate for the year (Rs. 43·8 per square mile) was not excessive, considering the smallness of the programme and difficult country. As the settlement is not under the Director of Land Records, no mention is made of it in his report. In paragraph 26 of the Resolution on the Survey and Settlement Reports for 1894-95, Sir Charles Elliott, however, desired that the Director should give a short paragraph, stating the history of the work done during the year.

Private estates other than those of North Bihar.

19. The estates of the Maharaja of Hill Tippera, in Tippera and Noakhali, cover an area of 555 square miles, and are contained in 1,511 villages. Mr. J. G. Cumming was Settlement Officer during the year, and he was assisted by five Assistant Settlement Officers. Six boundary disputes were disposed of. No appeal has yet been lodged against the decision in any boundary dispute decided in the course of this settlement. The records for 535 villages were attested, in 112 villages the records were wholly draft published, and in 118 the raiyats' khatians only, while the records of 97 villages were finally published. The rents of 1,694 raiyats and 190 tenure-holders were settled, resulting in an enhancement of raiyats' rents from Rs. 18,576 to Rs. 22,813, and of tenure-holders' rents from Rs. 3,150 to Rs. 5,716. The average outturn of attestation was 12,542 plots for each officer per mensem. The Director considers that this is fair progress having regard to the obstructive and litigious character of the tenantry. Applications were put in by the Raj for enhancement of rents in 42 per cent. of the villages held khas, with the results that the rents of these raiyats were raised by 22 per cent. The enhancements were made chiefly on the ground of excess area, but also on the general ground of a rise in the price of food-grains. The Lieutenant-Governor agrees with the Officiating Director in regretting that no progress could be made by the Special Judge in the decision of the appeals that have been made to him, and with the Settlement Officer's contention that there is no hope of the parties coming to terms until the Special Judge has decided two or three important issues which are similar in nearly all the cases. The delay in disposing of the appeals is the more to be regretted, in that the enhancements being heavy, it is very desirable that it should be decided by the Appellate Court as soon as possible whether they are justified by law. The statistics tabulated show that out of 80,000 tenants over 70,000 are settled or occupancy raiyats paying an average rent of Rs. 3-11-2 per acre.

20. The survey and record-writing of the Tikari ward's estate were completed during the year under report. The following statement shows the area surveyed and the cost year by year since the commencement of proceedings in 1892-93:—

YEAR.	AREA IN SQUARE MILES.					COST.					
	New work 16"=1 mile.			Revision 32"=1 mile.		Traverse survey.	Cadastral survey.	Record-writing.	Boundary skeleton survey.	City survey.	Total.
	Traverse survey.	Cadastral survey.	Record-writing.	Cadastral survey.	Record-writing.						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1892-93	232(a)	.....	.....	.....	.....	Rs. 17,084(b)	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. 17,684
1893-94	334	408	332	63	27	14,240	36,643	21,045	1,589	.....	73,517
1894-95	28	11	58	2	5	2,083	8,496	13,800	88	805	25,372
1895-99	8	14	17	32	62	882	6,840	6,601(c)	.....	201	14,524
Total	602	433	407	97	94	34,889	51,979	41,466	1,677	1,006	1,30,997

(a) Exclusive of 39 square miles not belonging to the estate, but situated among the scattered villages of the estate.

(b) Inclusive of Rs. 1,827 expended on training of local amins.

(c) Ditto 335 ditto arrears of previous season.

The cost of the survey per square mile was—(1) for traverse survey about Rs. 58; (2) for cadastral survey Rs. 98; and (3) for record-writing Rs. 82-12.

In Government estates in the Gaya district, traverse survey of 11 villages contained in 15 square miles, together with cadastral survey and record-writing of the same area, were accomplished during the year. The total survey cost was Rs. 1,982. In the Balkhara mahal, which is partly the property of Government and partly of the Tikari ward, considerable trouble was caused during the record-writing by the agents of Mr. Salano, the present landlord. The work on boundary disputes was heavy. All the records and traces have been completed and sent to the Settlement Officer. The Director has considered the settlement work done in the Tikari estate and the Government estates together, as the same staff of officers was in charge. The attestation of 109 Government villages and 107 Tikari estate villages was finished. The Settlement Officer notices that the apathy of the tenants rendered the preliminary examination of the records difficult. The work was also complicated by the fact that in several villages owned by Government jointly with other landlords, while Government rent is paid in money, the other landlords receive their share in kind. In 12 villages of the Tikari estate applications for enhancement were made regarding 69 tenants, and the rent was enhanced by 4·1 per cent. The principles to be followed in settling rents in Government villages were determined during the year. It was decided that in addition to the enhancement in rent demandable on account of increase in area, Government should demand an enhancement of two annas in the rupee on the ground of a rise in the price of staple food-crops, discretion being given to the Settlement Officer to reduce this rate when it was found necessary. Rents were settled for 2,853 tenants in 88 villages, and were raised from Rs. 44,412 to Rs 48,423, giving an enhancement of 9 per cent. In 12 villages produce rents were commuted into cash rents. The records of 478 villages in the Tikari estate were finally published during the year, but draft publication in Government villages was postponed. The total expenditure on settlement during the year in the Gaya district was Rs. 24,852.

21. The following statement shows the progress of operations and the cost incurred in the smaller surveys and settlements dealt with by the Superintendent of Settlement—

Smaller settlements.

Surveys and by the Director of Land Records and Agriculture during the year:—

ESTATES.	Number of villages.	Area in square miles.	SURVEY.		SETTLEMENT.					Total cost of survey and settlement to end of the year.
			Traverse — During 1895-96.	Cadastral— During 1895-96.	Attestation : number of villages —		Settlement of fair rents to end of the year.			
					During 1895-96.	To end 1895-96.	Number tenants.	Former rental.	New rental.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<i>Government estates.</i>										
			Sq. M.	Sq. M.				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
(1) Pataspur estates in Midnapore	96	54.7	.....	.....	.....	96	10,124	48,317	57,231	38,639
(2) Jaipur estates in Bogra	156	55.5	.....	.....	110	121	.....	.....	.....	32,380
(3) Backergunge estates	33	67.69	.....	3.67	23	32	2,007	37,715	49,975	.....
(4) Gaya estates	118	102	.....	14.	109	109	2,853	44,412	48,423	23,146*
(5) Shahabad estates	20	18.75	.....	.61	20	40	.....	.....	.....	2,718
Total	423	238.64	.....	18.28	267	398	14,984	1,30,444	1,56,079	97,583
<i>Private estates.</i>										
(1) Chaurasi estates in 24-Parganas.	50	33	.....	.....	50	50	2,408	16,208	22,554	14,727
(2) Ganga Mandal in Tippera	3	1.16	.....	.....	.....	3	118	811	811	1,029
(3) Palpara in Tippera	11	3.19	.....	.....	.....	11	231	3,392	3,393	2,645
(4) Tantibunia in Khulna	8	19.95	.....	.....	8	8	156	10,232	13,075	8,290
(5) Chiknibandi in Backergunge	9	9.71	.....	4.28	7	7	.....	.....	.....	3,792
Total	81	67.01	.....	4.28	65	79	2,913	30,643	39,893	30,483
<i>Wards' estates</i>										
(1) Burdwan Raj khas mahals in Burdwan, Hooghly and Bankura.	192	130	.....	.....	12	164	4,212	38,173	40,222	.....
(2) Dakshin Shahbazpur in Backergunge.	47	146.58	.....	.....	.....	47	30,125	3,51,432	3,03,373	97,520
(3) Srirampur in Backergunge	9	9.13	.....	.....	.....	9	1,481	20,050	20,050	8,840
(4) Narhanjestate in Monghyr	66	53.75	58	53.75	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18,059
Total	314	339.26	58	53.75	12	220	35,818	4,09,655	4,24,145	1,24,419
GRAND TOTAL	818	704.91	58	76.31	344	697	53,715	6,70,742	6,19,657	2,52,485

* Cost of settlement during 1895-96 included in Tikari and Balkhora.

22. *Pataspur*.—Progress of work was again delayed in this estate owing to the illness of the Settlement Officer in charge, and the Director does not think that the operations can be concluded before the end of April next. Record-writing and attestation had been completed in previous years and the settlement of fair rents was finished during the year. The draft records of 95 out of 96 villages were published before the close of the year. The rents of 10,124 tenants were settled and over 1,000 miscellaneous objections were dealt with. In 19 villages remissions of rent were given, while in the remaining 77 villages fair rents were settled resulting in an increase of nearly Rs. 10,000 over a formal rental of Rs. 42,000, that is, an increase of about 23.75 per cent., of which 16.73 per cent is due to enhancements on account of excess area, and 7.02 to enhancements under other sections. There has not been a single appeal against the decisions under section 104, Tenancy Act.

Jaipur Government Estates in Bogra.—The preparation and approval of a rate report was the only work done in connection with the settlement of these estates, the reason for the delay in completing this settlement being the incompetence of the late Settlement Officer, who has been removed and punished departmentally.

Estates in Backergunge.—Satisfactory progress was made in the settlement of these estates.

Estates in Shahabad.—Practically nothing was done in the work of settlement of these estates, owing, as in Bogra, to the incompetence of the Settlement Officer.

23. *Chaurasi Estates in the 24-Parganas*.—Here again the Director has had to notice unnecessary delay in various stages of the settlement operations. Attestation and the settlement of rents have now been completed and the operations should be soon concluded.

Tantibunia Estate in Khulna.—The survey and initial record-writing were completed in 1894-95, and the records were completed and finally published during the year under report. The Director states that the final report will be submitted as soon as orders regarding the apportionment and realisation of costs have been received. The cost of the settlement proceedings during the year was Rs. 4,141.

No special remarks are required regarding the work in the other private estates in which settlement proceedings were in progress during the year 1895-96.

24. *Burdwan Raj khas mahals.*—This settlement has been completed, the expenditure during the year being Rs. 10,575, and the total cost of the settlement, exclusive of survey, from the beginning being Rs. 51,641. The Board state that they are now awaiting the final report.

Dakhin Shabazpur Estate.—The final report has been submitted by the Collector, and the Board are now awaiting the Director's review of the settlement. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 99,480, including the cost of apportionment and recovery, of which Rs. 77,962 were recoverable under section 114, Tenancy Act. Of this amount Rs. 60,428 have been realized, and certificates have been issued for the balance.

Srirampur Estate.—This settlement is now concluded, and the final report is awaited by the Board.

Narham Estate.—Sixty-two villages contained in an area of 58 square miles were traversed, 66 villages were cadastrally surveyed, covering an area of 53.75 square miles, and the initial record-writing of 60 villages was completed. Two villages were therefore unnecessarily traversed and six unnecessarily surveyed in detail. This was owing to the difficulty of ascertaining the villages in which the estate held an eight-anna share or more, and to the defective character of the records supplied to the Survey Department. The expenditure was Rs. 2,322 for traverse, Rs. 8,196 for cadastral survey, and Rs. 5,397 for record-writing, or a total of Rs. 15,915. The rate was high, due to the small programme, detached work, and considerable difficulties and delays in ascertaining the true extent of the estate lands. Attestation will be carried on in the present season. Some boundary and other disputes were decided, and the cost to the Settlement Department was Rs. 2,144.

25. The question of the maintenance of the records in Orissa has been considered in a preceding paragraph. Act III (B.C.) of 1895 was brought into operation in the thanas of Hajipur in Muzaffarpur and Bettiah in Champaran, and the Sub-Registrars of these thanas have been appointed as Registrars of Mutations. The Act has also been extended to the Sujamutha portion of the Burdwan Raj Estate. It is premature to offer any opinion on the working of this Act. Half-yearly returns of mutations of tenant right in large Government and Wards' estates have been submitted to the Director, who has discussed these returns fully in his report.

26.—AMENDMENT OF THE TENANCY ACT.—On the subject of the amendment of the Tenancy Act the Officiating Director, Mr. Lyon, writes:—

“In consequence of the constant complaints received from Settlement Officers and others as to the difficulties found in working those provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Act which apply to settlement operations, Sir Charles Elliott drew up, before leaving India, a minute on the subject, suggesting certain reforms in procedure which would require a modification of the law. Mr. Macpherson subsequently emphasised the difficulties under which work was being done in a letter to Government, No. 481S., dated 14th February 1896, in which he proposed that we should return to the provisions of Act VIII (B.C.) of 1879 for the purposes of the settlement of Orissa. The whole subject was taken up at a Conference summoned by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at Belvedere on February 16th and 21st, 1896, at which the Members of the Board of Revenue, with the Secretary to the Board, the Revenue Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Mr. Macpherson, Mr. Maude, and myself were present. In accordance with the results of the discussions at that Conference, a note was subsequently submitted by me, in which I endeavoured to summarise the difficulties felt by the officers who were entrusted with the conduct of settlement operations in Bengal, and the Board of Revenue submitted a draft Bill to amend the settlement provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Act. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor then prepared a minute dealing with the whole question, and forwarded it to the Government of India with proposals for

legislation. The orders of the Government of India, approving of legislation, subject to the sanction of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, and a copy of the Despatch in which that sanction has been solicited, have been received since the close of the year."

27. The Lieutenant-Governor desires to thank the Director, Mr. Macpherson, the Officiating Director, Mr. Lyon, and the Superintendent of Settlement-Surveys, Captain Crichton, for the zeal and enthusiasm they have displayed and for the excellent work which they have done during the year. Regarding the services of other officers and gentlemen the Officiating Director writes:—

"The following Settlement and Assistant Settlement Officers rendered good service in the year under report:—Messrs. Allen, Colvin, Cumming, Gauntlett, Hughes, Kerr, Kingsford, Maddox, Roe, Stevenson-Moore, Thomson, and Webster, Mr. J. Taylor, Babu Sri Gopal Bhattacharya, Babu Haris Chandra Rai, Babu Prasanna Kumar Banerji, Babu Hara Krishna Mahanti, Babu Jogendra Narayan Mitra, Babu Durga Charan Ghose, Babu Girish Chandra Dutt, Babu Sasi Bhusan Dutt, Babu Siva Sunker Singh, Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta, Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur, Pandit Rama Ballabh Misra, Maulvi Gholam Ghaus.

"It would be difficult for me to speak too highly of the admirable work that is being done by Mr. Maddox in Orissa. Mr. Stevenson-Moore has acquired a complete grasp of the needs of the settlement operations in North Bihar, and has submitted some admirable reports in connection with them in the course of the year. Mr. Cumming's thorough and careful work in Tippera is deserving of special notice, and Mr. Hughes has distinguished himself in Muzaffarpur by his indefatigable and intelligent supervision of a large staff of subordinates. Mr. Gauntlett in the supervision of kharapuri work in Saran, Mr. Kerr as Assistant Settlement Officer in charge in Motihari, Babu Prasanna Kumar Banerji in assessment work in Balasore, Babu Girish Chandra Dutt in his conduct of the operations in the Pataspur estate, Babu Siva Sanker Singh in recovery work in North Bihar, and Maulvi Gholam Ghaus in case-work in Saran, also rendered services of especial note.

"Mr. W. R. Bright continued to help the department with his careful supervision of settlement work in Midnapore, and Mr. Savage assisted us materially in Gaya. Captain Crichton, Superintendent of Settlement Surveys in Bengal, has, as in previous years, kept himself in touch with all the requirements of good record-writing, and has cordially co-operated with the Director of Land Records in all matters affecting his own department. Mr. E. Macnaghten has continued to give us valuable assistance as Secretary to the Bihar Indigo Planters' Association and has much facilitated the progress of the work."

His Honour also cordially endorses the praise bestowed by the Officiating Director on the officers mentioned in the extract above quoted, a copy of which will be communicated to the Appointment Department.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

M. FINUCANE,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

No. 1258.

COPY forwarded to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Land Revenue Department, for the information of the Board, with reference to his letter No. 85A., dated 16th January 1897, and for communication to the Director of Land Records, the Superintendent of Settlement Surveys, all Commissioners of Divisions, District Officers and Settlement Officers.

No. 1259.

COPY forwarded to the Deputy Surveyor-General in charge Revenue Branch, Survey of India, for information.

No. 1260.

COPY, with a copy of the report of the Director of Land Records, forwarded to the Appointment Department of this Government, for information, with special reference to paragraph 27 above.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

E. M. KONSTAM,

Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

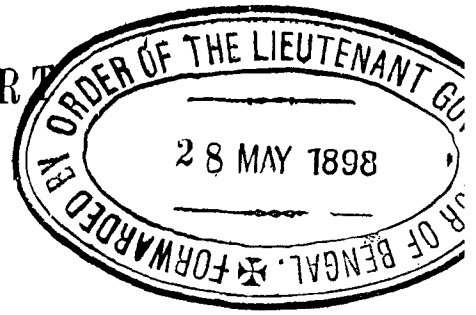
CALCUTTA,

The 22nd March 1897.

H. P. & others—Reg. No. 7153C—1421—23-3-97.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE



DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND
RECORDS, BENGAL,

ON

SETTLEMENTS

FOR

The year ending 30th September 1897.



Calcutta:

BENGAL SECRETARIAT PRESS.

1897.

*Addenda and Corrigenda to the Annual Report of the Director of the Department of Land
Records, Bengal, on Settlements for the year ending 30th September 1897.*

For "768" in column 4 of the table given in paragraph 35, page 16, against final publication under Muzaffarpur, read "723."

For "the temporarily-settled estates" in column 3 of Appendix I, page ii, against Puri, read "the temporarily-settled estates and Ekrajat lands."

For "462" in column 12 of Appendix I, page ii, against Muzaffarpur, read "452."

For "2,490" in column 12 of Appendix I, page ii, against total of private estates, read "2,480."

For "4,217" in column 12 of Appendix I, page ii, against grand total, read "4,207."

For "95" in column 13 of Appendix I, page iii, against Pataspur temporarily-settled estates, read "94."

For "2,603" in column 13 of Appendix I, page iii, against total of Government estates, read "2,602."

For "9,678" in column 13 of Appendix I, page iii, against grand total, read "9,677."

For "1887" in column 15 of Appendix I, page iii, against Muzaffarpur, read "1884."

For "2,738" in column 15 of Appendix I, page iii, against total of private estates, read "2,735."

For "4,461" in column 15 of Appendix I, page iii, against grand total, read "4,458."

For "5,986" in columns 20 and 21 of Appendix I, page iii, against Jaipur Government estates, read "5,766."

For "1,142,581" and "1,594,871" in columns 20 and 21 of Appendix I, page iii, against total of Government estates, read "1,142,361" and "1,594,651," respectively.

For "1,186,937" and "1,777,044" in columns 20 and 21 of Appendix I, page iii, against grand total, read "1,186,717" and "1,776,824," respectively.

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REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND
RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE, BENGAL, ON SETTLEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR FROM 1ST OCTOBER 1896 TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 1897.

No. 2712S.

FROM W. C. MACPHERSON, Esq, C.S.,

*Director of the Department of Land Records and
Agriculture, Bengal,*

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF REVENUE, L.P.

Dated Calcutta, the 22nd November 1897.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit my Report on Settlement operations under the control of the Director of Land Records for the year ending 30th September 1897. This is the seventh annual report submitted for the survey and settlement year. The summary of progress made in settlements in the financial year ending 31st March 1897, which was submitted to the Board with my letter No. 1623S., dated the 25th June 1897, was the twelfth annual report submitted by the Director of Land Records for the financial and administrative year. This Report is arranged in the same manner as the report for the previous year, except that it does not treat of the maintenance of land records and permanent survey marks. In accordance with the orders contained in Resolution No. VIII of the Government of India in the Revenue and Agriculture Department, dated 20th March 1897, those subjects were dealt with in my Report on Land Records and Agriculture for the year ending 31st March 1897.

CHAPTER I.

GENERAL SUMMARY AND GENERAL REMARKS.

2. The following introductory statement shows in abstract the area of the settlement operations under the control of the Director of Land Records in the

year from 1st October 1896 to 30th September 1897, the progress made under main heads and the expenditure incurred :—

NAME OF SETTLEMENT.	Area under settle-ment of revenue or record of rights.	Area for which initial records were written (i.e., khana-puri comple-ted) during 1896-97.	Area for which records were attested and existing rents recorded in 1896-97.	Number of tenants for whom rents were settled in 1896-97.	Number of villages for which final records were published in 1896-97.	Total ex-penditure of the Settlement Department during the year ending 30th Septem-ber 1897.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
TEMPORARILY-SETTLED TRACTS AND GOVERNMENT ESTATES.							
<i>Major settlements.</i>							
Orissa {	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Tenants.	Villages.	Rs.	
Cuttack	2,273'38	Field survey and record-writing were finished be-fore the beginning of the year under re-port.	5'10	364,583	1,263	528,190	
Balasore	1,733'11		4'31	261,129	1,076		
Puri	1,089'04		None	232,338	1,106		
Khurda	913'00		377'58	190,412	681		
Chittagong	1,923'00	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	67,666	260	164,418	
Palamau	294'00	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Completed before the year began. 824	.....	7,650	
Darjeeling Terai	230'15	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	.....	.....	6,535	
<i>Minor settlements.</i>							
Pataspur in Midnapore	54'70	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	4,938	88	11,802	
Jaipur in Bogra	55'59	Ditto ...	49'00*	5,986	119	10,922	* This includes 25,151 square miles for which records were re-attested.
Noakhali, 11 estates in the islands of Hatiya and Sandip.	97'00	88'98	Not begun ...	None ...	None ...	10,238(a)	(a) On these and other estates dealt with by the Collector under the Regulations.
Backergunge Government estates	61'93	4'62	3'70	4,799	6	17,001	(b) Shown against the Tikari estate.
Gaya Government estates	102'00	Finished in the preced-ing year.	12'84	427	102	(b)	
Shahabad, 15 Government estates	18'32	Ditto ...	.....	958	19	656	
Total ...	8,645'13	88'00	453'43	1,124,060	4,720	756,912	
SURVEYS AND RECORDS OF RIGHTS NOT UNDERTAKEN IN CONNECTION WITH SETTLE-MENT OF THE LAND REVENUE.							
<i>Major operations.</i>							
North Bihar {							
Muzaffarpur	3,063'00	Finished be-fore the year began. (c)	436'42	6,987	1,729	1,19,174	(c) The survey report, however, shows re-cords rewritten for two square miles.
Champan	3,280'00	Ditto ...	665'00	24,970	891	87,860	(d) The survey report figures are taken in-stead of the Settle-ment Officer's figures.
Saran	2,622'00	209'56(d)	477'09	7,168	998	88,135	
Darbhanga	3,335'00	544'49	None	None ...	.....	.....	
Chakla Roshnabad	556'85	Finished be-fore year began.	219'72	3,574	88	63,006	
<i>Minor operations.</i>							
Chauras	33'00	Finished be-fore the year began.	All finished before the year began.	96	43	4,242	
Tantibuniya	19'95	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	.....	Finished be-fore the year began.	1,354	
Chiknikandi	27'24	1'26	4'28	1,455	1	2,724	
Krishna Ram Sen	14'76	14'76	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Tatirkati	1'51	1'51	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Gangamandal	2'69	.....	1'53	44	3	685	
Total ...	12,966'00	772'08	1,804'04	44,294	3,753	367,180	
WARDS' ESTATES.							
Tikari and Balkhara	481'91	Finished be-fore the year began (f)	101'35	12	145	17,758(e)	(e) Includes expen-diture in the Govern-ment estates.
Narhan	48'19	.....	48'19	50	None ...	3,169	(f) The survey report shows records written for one square mile.
Total ...	530'10	.....	149'54	62	145	20,927	
GRAND TOTAL ...	22,331'23	860'68	2,407'01	1,178,416	8,618	1,145,019	

The test survey and revision of records made in eight villages, comprising an area of 2,106 acres, or a little more than 3 square miles, in the Majnamuth estate has not been included in the above statement, as the Majnamuth estate cannot be said to have come under re-settlement in the year under report.

The position of the settlement operations above shown may be briefly stated as follows:—

In the temporarily-settled estates of Orissa rents were settled during the year under report for more than half of the whole number of tenants who have to be dealt with. A beginning was made in assessment of revenue payable by proprietors, but the bulk of this work remains to be done. In Khurda records were attested and rents settled for the great majority of the tenants.

In Chittagong rents remained to be settled for only 8,774 out of 2½ lakh of tenants of the noabad lands.

In Palamau the completion report has to be submitted and the settlement has to be approved by the higher authorities.

In the Darjeeling Terai the principal work remaining is the distribution of leases. Some of the jotedars have refused to accept the settlement and have

threatened litigation in the Civil Courts, but it is hoped that their objections will be withdrawn.

In Pataspur the work has been protracted beyond expectation, but proposals for assessment of the land revenue have now been submitted to the Board.

In Jaipur rents have been settled for all tenants and little more than completion of final publication remains.

In some of the Backergunge Government estates under settlement under the Tenancy Act work was completed during the year, but in others remains to be completed or has only just begun.

In the Gaya Government estates under settlement under the Tenancy Act little work remains except compilation of statistics and preparation of the completion report.

In 14 of the 15 Shahabad Government estates under settlement under the Tenancy Act rents were settled and records finally published during the year.

In North Bihar progress was interfered with by famine. Attestation of records is completed in Muzaffarpur and is nearly completed in Champaran. Field survey and record-writing have been finished for rather more than half of the Saran district, and a beginning has been made in Darbhanga.

In the estates of the Maharaja of Hill Tippera in the Tippera and Noakhali districts attestation of records has been nearly completed, but much work in settlement of rents and publication of records remains.

In Chaurasi settlement of rents and publication were completed during the year and the completion report has been submitted by the Settlement Officer, but many appeals are still pending before the Special Judge.

In Tantibuniya appeals are still pending before the Special Judge.

In the Backergunge estates much work remains.

In Gangamandal appeals are pending before the Special Judge.

In Tikari and Balkhara the work is completed, except compilation of statistics and of the completion report.

In Narhan settlement of rents and publication of records remain.

The progress made in each settlement is noticed in detail in the later chapters of this report; and the Settlement Officers' reports are appended.

3. There was an increase in the strength of the settlement staff during the year, owing to the needs of the work in Orissa. The statement below shows the number of officers employed on settlements under the supervision of the Director of Land Records on the 1st January 1896 and 1st January 1897:—

1st Jan. 1896 and the 1st Jan. 1897.				
Settlement Officers	...	...	14	11
Assistant Settlement Officers	...	...	83	92
Total	...	...	97	103

The decrease in the number of Settlement Officers is explained as follows:—

Settlement.		1st Jan. 1896.	1st Jan. 1897.	
Burdwan Raj khas mahals	...	1	Nil	(Settlement concluded.)
Tantibuniya estate in Khulna	...	1	Nil	(Ditto.)
North Bihar	...	2	1	(Amalgamation of charges.)
Orissa	...	2	1	(Ditto.)
Noakhali	...	Nil	1	(New settlement operations begun.)
Total	...	6	3	

On the 1st April 1897 the settlement staff under the Director of Land Records consisted of 85 officers and on the 1st July 1897 of 70 officers. The

settlement staff was reduced in Bihar in February 1897 on account of the exigencies of famine, but in Orissa nearly the whole strength of Assistant Settlement Officers was retained throughout the hot weather and rains.

4. Completion reports for thana Teknaf in Chittagong and the Srirampore Ward's estate and the Government estates Char Nalgora and Char Lakhi *alias* Padma Manasha in Backergunge were submitted to the Board during the year. The completion report for the Government estate Char Krisnapura was received in this office shortly before, and submitted to the Board shortly after, the close of the year. My review of the report for the Dakhin Shabazpur Ward's Estate, which has long been deferred, is about to be submitted. Completion reports for the Chaurasi estate in the 24-Parganas and the Government estate Char Heshamuddin in Backergunge were received in my office only a few days before the end of the year. The former report is about to be submitted to the Board. Correspondence with regard to the Heshamuddin report is going on with the Collector. I regret that I have not yet found time to review the report for the Burdwan Raj khas mahals.

5. New settlements were taken up during the year in some small estates in Backergunge and Noakhali. Correspondence has gone on with reference to the resettlement of the Majnamutha and Jalamutha estates and other estates in Midnapore.

GENERAL SETTLEMENT QUESTIONS DEALT WITH DURING THE YEAR.

6. A Bill to amend sections 30, 31, 39, 52 and 119 and Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act, VIII of 1885, was introduced in Council on the 3rd April 1897. The changes proposed were explained by the Hon'ble Mover of the Bill to be as follows:—

- "(1) to clear up doubts and difficulties of procedure which have arisen in the course of experience in the working of Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act, 1885.
- "(2) to facilitate the settlement of rents when undertaken on a large scale either for the purpose of settling land revenue or on the application of private individuals.
- "(3) to amend the substantive law relating to the enhancement and reduction of rents, so as to make certain provisions of the law workable, and to give effect to the intention of its authors regarding certain points on which, owing to want of sufficient clearness in the wording of the law or to the interpretations put on it by the Civil Courts, it has been found in practice to be inoperative.

The reports submitted by Government officers and other persons on the provisions of the Bill are under the consideration of Government.

7. In view of the Full Bench ruling of the High Court of 27th April 1896 in the case of Upadhya Thakur and others to the effect that proceedings under Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act are not "suits," it was held by Government in letter No. 301T. R., dated the 19th May 1897, that in proceedings consequent on applications under section 104 and on petitions under section 106 of the Tenancy Act, court-fees should be levied under article 1, Schedule II of the Court-Fees Act, VII of 1870. Proposals have accordingly been submitted for revision of some of the rules in Chapter 3, Part I of the Survey and Settlement Manual, 1895, relating to the levy of court-fees in proceedings under Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act. It is understood that these proposals are under the consideration of the Board and Government. A draft circular has also been submitted to the Board with this office letter No. 2091S., dated 23rd August 1897, in which it is proposed to explain that rules 3 and 4, Chapter 3, Part I, and rules 4 and 5, Chapter 6, Part III, are subordinate to the distinct provision of rule 1, Chapter 3, Part I of the Survey and Settlement Manual, 1895, or, in other words, that applications under section 106 and objections under section 105 of the Tenancy Act filed before Revenue Officers engaged in settlement of the land revenue before the final confirmation of the settlement are not chargeable with any fee.

8. It was ruled by the Legal Remembrancer in a letter No. 1653, dated 4th December 1896 (circulated with Director's circular No. 2S., dated 5th January 1897), that a Special Judge's order on appeals preferred in the case of certain applications filed under section 104 of the Tenancy Act had the effect of annulling a Revenue Officer's proceedings, including final publication of a record-of-rights which had been made while the appeals were still pending, and that the proceedings must be taken up *de novo* from the point at which they were affected by the order on appeal.

9. In the course of proceedings under Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act, VIII of 1885, a Revenue Officer caused the record-of-rights for a certain village to be finally published under section 105 (2) of the Act and rule 31 of the Government rules under the Act, while objections filed under section 105 (1) of the Act were pending for disposal. On finding that the objections had not been considered, he passed an order cancelling the final publication in respect of the settlement khatians covered by the objections. On a reference made, the Legal Remembrancer held in letter No. 299, dated the 6th May 1897, "that the final publication was under the circumstances *ultra vires* and could therefore be legitimately revoked."

10. The Settlement Officer of Chittagong having drawn my attention to an order passed by a Munsif requiring the correction of entries in a record-of-rights finally published under section 105 of the Bengal Tenancy Act, I submitted the decision of the Munsif for the consideration of the Board with my letter No. 1233S., dated the 29th April 1897. The Advocate-General, who was consulted by the Board, was of opinion that the Munsif's proceedings were *ultra vires*. The learned Advocate-General remarked that no suit for rectification of settlement papers under Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act will lie.

11. The question to what extent the names of co-sharers in raiyati holdings should be entered in the settlement records was discussed in this office letter No. 1947S., dated 18th July 1897, and the orders communicated by the Board and approved in Government letter No. 982T.R. are to the effect that the names of all co-sharers in a raiyati holding must be entered in the column of the *khassra* provided for the entry of the name of the raiyat. For the sake of convenience the name of the "principal" raiyat, *i.e.*, generally the raiyat entered in the landlord's *jamabandi*, is to be entered first. If the landlord objects to entry of the names of co-sharers it is open to him to dispute the entry under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.

12. A very important Full Bench ruling (I. L. R., XXIV, Calc., p. 193) in the case of Jowad ul Hakk to the effect that the purchase of the occupancy right in a holding by a co-sharer landlord does not cause the *holding* to cease to exist, but has only the result of causing the occupancy right to cease to exist, was given during the year. The effect of this ruling is that a new cultivator may be brought in by such co-landlord as an under-raiyat. On this ruling Mr. Stevenson Moore, Settlement Officer of North Bihar, offers remarks [in paragraph 5(3) of his report for the year] which are worthy of attention.

13. The question was raised in Mr. Lyon's letter No. 278T.S., dated 25th July 1896, with special reference to the settlement of rents in Orissa, whether a Revenue Officer, acting under section 104(2) read with section 102(a) (d) of the Bengal Tenancy Act, is bound to settle the rents of under-raiyats. The subject was discussed in Government letter No. 834T.R., dated the 1st October 1896, in which the opinions of the law officers were invited. Both the Legal Remembrancer and the Advocate-General were of opinion that a Revenue Officer, acting under section 104(2) read with section 102(d) of the Bengal Tenancy Act, is bound to settle a fair rent in respect of lands held by under-

raiyyats, and that the provisions of section 113 of the Act do not apply to such settlement.

14. In my letter No. 1116S., dated the 2nd April 1897, the instructions of the Board were solicited with special reference to the settlement of rents in the Jaipur Government estates in Bogra, as to whether a Settlement Officer can of his own motion, or on the application of the Manager of a Government estate, but without an application of the co-proprietors of the estate, settle a rent, enhanced or otherwise, for a tenancy consisting entirely or in part of a field or fields owned partly by Government and partly by other proprietors. The Advocate-General, in whose opinion the Legal Remembrancer concurred, expressed the following opinion:—

"I am of opinion that a Settlement Officer of his own motion, or on the application of the Manager of the Government estate, but without application of the co-proprietors, cannot settle a rent, enhanced or otherwise, for a tenancy held under Government and consisting entirely or in part of a field or fields owned partly by Government and partly by other proprietors. It has been held that, having regard to the provisions of section 188, Tenancy Act, where two or more persons are joint proprietors, they must all join in bringing a suit for enhancement of rent or for additional rent (see *Gopal Chunder Dass versus Umes Narain Chaudhuri*, I. L. R. VI, Calc. 695), and it appears to me that the principles laid down in that case will equally apply to settlement proceedings under Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act."

15. Reference having been made in connection with the question of preservation of settlement records and supply of copies in Chittagong, it was held by the Board and by Government, who agreed in the view expressed by the law officers, "that the original records finally published should be preserved as the authentic record of rights, and that copies certified as 'true copies' must contain exactly the same entries as are to be found in the original records" (Government letter No. 1022T.R., dated the 3rd November 1896, circulated to Settlement Officers with this office circular No. 56S., dated 2nd December 1896).

16. On the recommendation made in this office letter No. 1515S., dated the 13th June 1897, the Board were pleased to issue circular order No. 10 of July 1897 for the addition of the following instruction to rule 4, Chapter 7, Part III, page 88 of the Survey and Settlement Manual, 1895:—

"When fair copies of the working khatian slips prepared in the preliminary stages of settlement work have been made for final publication, and have been published as the final khatians of the settlement, the working khatian slips should be destroyed on the completion of the settlement work. Such destruction may ordinarily be made immediately before the records of a settlement are delivered to the Collector's record-keeper for deposit in the record-room. But if appeals are still pending before a Special Judge, the Settlement Officer may exercise a discretion in preserving the working khatian slips for any village or for any individual tenant."

17. A note was written by Mr. P. C. Lyon, Officiating Director of this Department, in September 1896, on the subject of utilisation of settlement maps and records in land acquisition proceedings. This subject having been fully discussed during the year, it was decided in Government orders No. 2462, dated 13th August 1897, that it is advisable to use the settlement maps and records as far as possible in land acquisition proceedings, both in order to save time, labour and expense and in order to obtain more reliable evidence in the matter of rents than is afforded by zamindari records.

The Government was advised that the settlement maps are not likely to be of use unless the land to be acquired is of sufficient area to be unmistakably made out on a map of 330 feet to the inch. In the case of minute plots, this scale is too small, and the enlargement of a map plotted to a certain scale is of no value for determining the boundaries of plots which are too small to be made out on the plotted map. The decision of the question whether the survey maps should be used in any particular case should therefore be left with the Land Acquisition Officer, who will be able to determine it by actual experiment and in consultation with the Railway authorities. If and when it is decided in this manner to use the settlement maps, the settlement records

should also be used. In view of these orders, necessary alterations were ordered to be made in rules 16 and 18, Chapter I, and rules 10 to 13, Chapter II of the Land Acquisition Manual. Mr. Stevenson Moore's report for the year shews that the survey maps and records have been largely utilised for land acquisition work for the railways in the Champaran and Darbhanga districts.

18. Some additional statistics were collected during the year with regard to transfer of rights in land, which will be separately reviewed.
Transfers of rights in land.

19. Many difficulties having been found in settling *diara* lands under the provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Act, instructions on this subject were issued in Government letter in the Revenue Department No. 914T.R., dated 12th October 1896. With regard to *diaras* in temporarily-settled estates liable to rapid changes owing to river action the Board also issued instructions in their Circular No. 1 of February 1897 to the effect that although the officer making the settlement cannot enhance existing rents under the old Regulations, he can prepare what he thinks to be a fair *jamabandi* and base the assessment of the revenue on it, and leave it to the zamindar to enforce the *jamabandi*, if necessary, in the Civil Courts.
Diara lands.

20. In this office circular No. 211A., dated 19th April 1897, the attention of Settlement Officers was drawn to the annual lists showing the average prices of staple food crops prepared and published in the *Calcutta Gazette* under section 39(4) of the Bengal Tenancy Act. In notifications Nos. 4306L.R. and 4307L.R., dated the 7th November 1896 (published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 11th idem), the local areas and marts at which, and the staple food crops for which price lists are to be prepared in the districts of Cuttack, Puri and Balasore have been specified.
Price lists under the Bengal Tenancy Act.

21. The forms prescribed in the Survey and Settlement Manual, 1895, were translated during the year often into three languages and prescribed after some revision as standard forms. This has been a work involving much labour.
Settlement forms.

22. The adjustment of accounts of settlement expenditure and recoveries has been the subject of much correspondence and discussion with the Accountant-General, and it is hoped that the procedure prescribed in this office letter No. 1T.S., dated 3rd June 1897, may be found to facilitate the correct keeping of accounts.
Accounts.

The Director of Land Records receives returns of recoveries of cost of survey and record of rights for all operations under his control. During the year ending 31st March 1897 recoveries to the amount of Rs. 2,01,280 were made from landlords and tenants as shown in Appendix III to the Board's Land Revenue Report.

CHAPTER II.

TEMPORARILY-SETTLED TRACTS AND GOVERNMENT ESTATES.

Major Settlements.

ORISSA.

Area under settlement, 6,008 square miles.

23. Mr. S. L. Maddox, c.s., was in charge throughout the year of the settlement of the temporarily-settled estates of Orissa and of the Government estate of Khurda. He had a maximum staff of 47 Assistant Settlement Officers during the cold weather of 1896-97; and his staff of Assistant Settlement Officers, though reduced in the hot weather and rains, never fell below a strength of 40 officers. Messrs. H. McPherson, c.s., J. Webster, c.s., H. Carey, c.s., D. H. Kingsford, c.s., and J. Taylor were in immediate superintending

charge of the operations in Puri, Cuttack (divided into two charges), Balasore and Khurda respectively. The following statement shows under the main heads the work done during the year:—

NAME OF DISTRICT.	Number of Assistant Settlement Officers employed during the year or for part of the year.	Village boundary disputes decided under the Bengal Tenancy Act.	Area in square miles for which records were attested.	Number of tenants for whom rents were settled.	Number of villages for which draft records were published.	Number of objections under section 105 heard and considered after draft publication.	Number of disputes decided under section 106.	Number of villages for which records were finally published.	Number of villages for which final khatians were copied, checked and compared.	Number of estates assessed to revenue by Settlement Officer.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<i>Cuttack.</i>										
Area under settlement, 2,273 square miles.	19 to 13	None	5	364,683	1,959	15,791	373	1,263	1,995	173
Tenants, 850,000										
Estates, 4,353										
<i>Balasore.</i>										
Area under settlement, 1,733 square miles.	13 to 18	20	4	261,129	1,613	9,162	509	1,076	1,614	36
Tenants, 475,000										
Estates, 1,402										
<i>Puri.</i>										
Area under settlement, 1,089 square miles.	12 to 4	None	None	232,338	1,735	8,943	385	1,106	1,324	102
Tenants, 275,000(a)										
Estates, 488										
Total, temporarily-settled area	...	20	9	858,050	5,312	31,896	1,267	3,445	4,933	311
<i>Khurda Government estate.</i>										
Area, 913(a) square miles ...	13 to 4	None	373	190,412	1,301	1,766	48	681	866	...
Tenants										
GRAND TOTAL ...	...	20	387	1,048,462	6,613	33,662	1,315	4,126	5,799	311

(a) Exclusive of lakhiraj bahal tenants.

(b) In Khurda rents have to be settled for Government tenants in an area of about 400 square miles. The remaining area is (1) included in the Ekrajats or Revenue-free estate and (2) Forest.

The principal feature of the year's work was the great progress made in settlement of rents. The immediate following up of attestation by settlement of rents in Khurda is also to be noticed.

With regard to the principles on which rents have been settled, it is to be mentioned that during the visit of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to Orissa in January 1897, the settlement rules of 1896 were revised chiefly in the matters of settlement of rents of *thani* and *pahi* tenants, and the settlement of rents for lands growing crops other than staple crops.

The results of the settlement of rents in the temporarily-settled estates of Orissa up to date are as follows:—

NAME OF DISTRICT.	Estimated total number of tenants.	Estimated total existing assets.	Tenants for whom rents have been settled from the beginning.	Existing assets dealt with to end of September 1897.	Settled assets down to 30th September 1897.	Increase of column 6 over column 5.	Percentage of increase of column 6 over column 5.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Cuttack	850,000	17 lakhs	423,782	Rs. 10,05,088	Rs. 11,66,071	1,60,983	16
Balasore	475,000	10½ "	359,041	7,67,155	9,11,485	1,44,330	18
Puri	275,000*	5½ "	252,415	5,31,733	6,10,409	78,676	17
	1,600,000	33 "	1,035,238	23,03,976	26,87,965	3,83,989	16

* Exclusive of confirmed lakhiraj tenants.

The Settlement Officer thinks that existing assets of the temporarily-settled estates in fact are not less than 35 lakhs, and that they will be raised to more than 40 lakhs. It is understood that the figures showing increase of settled assets over existing assets are somewhat obscured by exclusion of valuation of *nijjot* lands from existing assets in early returns.

In Khurda existing rents, aggregating Rs. 2,96,814, have been raised to Rs. 3,62,438, or by 22 per cent. and rents payable directly to Government have been raised from Rs. 2,86,812 to Rs. 3,52,708. Rents of cultivated lands in Khurda are being enhanced 3 annas in the rupee on account of rise of prices since 1881 when they were last settled, and there is also a considerable increase of cultivation. Rents of tenants in bazars, *i.e.*, chiefly shopkeepers and artisans, are being enhanced one anna in the rupee only.

In the temporarily-settled estates in Cuttack existing rents have so far been retained for 58 per cent. of the tenants, in Balasore for 55 per cent., in Puri, exclusive of Khurda, for 60 per cent., in Khurda for 27·72 of the tenants. At the beginning of the year Mr. Maddox writes, existing rents were being retained for 60 to 65 per cent. of the tenancies. Since March the percentage of rents retained has been 50 to 55. Attendance of tenants has been good, and the work has in the main been conducted on the basis of express acceptances given by the tenants to the rents proposed by the Revenue Officers. The Settlement Officer shows that in the case of only 7,236 out of 1,042,596 tenancies for which figures have been compiled were rents altered *ex parte*, *i.e.*, in the absence of the tenants, and that during the year under report only 1,820 out of 1,048,462 tenants objected to the rents settled, and maintained their objections so as to necessitate formal record of evidence and procedure under the provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure. Local enquiries frequently have the result of removing objections to rents proposed. From my own observations of the work of proposing and settling rents at a number of camps, I can state my belief that the tenants' acceptances are in the main genuine, and that it is chiefly in the case of the *bazyafidars* whose privileged rents are being enhanced to a greater degree than the rents of any other tenants that acceptances are withheld or are doubtful.

Only nine appeals against settled rents had been referred to the Special Judge down to the end of the year; out of these six appeals are pending; in two appeals the Revenue Officer's findings were expressly upheld and one appeal was dismissed.

Good progress has been made in disposal of objections and disputes, in publication and in copying of records.

A beginning only has been made in assessment of revenue in the temporarily-settled estates. For 173 estates in Cuttack, for 36 estates in Balasore, and for 10 estates in Puri, or for 311 estates in all out of 6,243 estates, assessment reports had been prepared by the settlement staff down to the end of the year. During my term of deputation in Orissa in July and August 1897, I was able to pass on to the Commissioner the reports for 70 estates in nine parganas. The Commissioner had passed order on reports for 142 estates down to the end of the year. It is anticipated that the existing revenue of the temporarily-settled estates, *viz.*, Rs. 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs will be increased at least to 21 lakhs, and of Khurda from 3 lakhs to rather over 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs.

The expenditure of the year on settlement work in Orissa amounted to Rs. 5,28,190. The expenditure from the beginning has been on survey Rs. 10,35,294 and on settlement Rs. 16,39,881.

CHITTAGONG DISTRICT.

Area under survey and record-of-rights, 1,923 square miles.

24. Mr. C. G. H. Allen, c.s., continued to be in charge of the settlement operations in Chittagong. In addition to his settlement duties, he officiated as Collector of the district from the 1st October to the 11th November 1896, and again from the 12th April to the 1st May 1897. He also officiated as Director of Land Records from the 23rd June to the 6th September 1897. He had a staff of five Assistant Settlement Officers, who were employed for the whole of the year.

The following is an abstract of the work done during the year:—

Mahal milan or adjustment of areas of estates completed in	Rents settled for		Records published in draft for	Objections under section 105 heard and considered.	Disputes decided under section 106.	Records finally published for	Final khatians copied for
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
86 villages	288 villages	67,666 tenants.	349 villages.	4,696	41	260 villages	413 villages.

The completion report for Teknaf thana was submitted during the year.

The principal work remaining at the end of the year under report was (1) to settle rents for 8,774 tenants; (2) to publish draft records for 77 villages and final records for 270 villages; (3) to copy final khatians for 624 villages, and landlords' and tenants' copies for a larger number of villages; (4) to compile statistics and prepare the completion report of the district. Under the programme for the year, final publication should have been completed for the whole district. The delay is chiefly due to under-estimate of the number of Noabad tenants to be dealt with.

The result of the settlement of rents during the year was that the aggregate rents paid by the 67,666 tenants of all degrees were raised from Rs. 135,521 to Rs. 1,80,187. Rents of raiyats in the mass were increased by 7 per cent.; of this increase $\frac{4}{5}$ ths was on account of excess area. Rents of raiyats paying direct to Government were increased by 10 per cent. In the case of 22,336 tenants of all degrees paying rents or revenue direct to Government, the increase made was from Rs. 58,422 to Rs. 76,671, or 31 per cent., and in addition rents were settled for previously unsettled lands to the amount of Rs. 14,168. The result of the settlement operations from the beginning in this district has been to raise the Government revenue of the Noabad lands from Rs. 3,50,940 to Rs. 5,30,121, or by 51 per cent.; and the whole increase of revenue likely to be obtained is estimated by the Settlement Officer as Rs. 1,96,500.

The principles on which rents are being settled in this district have been frequently stated, and there is nothing special to notice in the work of the year. A memorial presented to Government by the Chittagong Landholders' Association in which various objections to the settlement proceedings were put forward was dealt with in Government Resolution No. 695T.R., dated 4th September 1897.

The expenditure of the year was Rs. 1,64,418, and the total expenditure from the beginning of the operations has been Rs. 5,27,541 on survey and Rs. 9,70,080 on settlement, or Rs. 14,97,621 in all.

PALAMAU GOVERNMENT ESTATE.

Area under settlement, 294 square miles.

25. Mr. D. Sunder continued to be in charge of this settlement till the beginning of February 1897, when he reverted to general duty in connection with famine administration. Mr. Sunder returned to settlement work in July 1897 in order to compile his completion report and statistics.

The work done during the year consisted principally of the distribution to raiyats of the *fihrist*s or statements of areas and rents which had not been distributed during the previous year, explanation to raiyats of the *jamabandis* published under section 9 of Act VIII (B.C.) of 1879, the revision of boundaries of villages and formation of blocks of protected forest, the compilation of statistics and the preparation of the completion report for the settlement.

The result of the settlement has been to give a rental of Rs. 74,433 against rents settled in 1865 amounting to Rs. 40,892 and against an attested rental of Rs. 57,693 paid to the *thikadars*. In addition Rs 3,270 have been settled as the rent of *mahua* trees and Rs. 10,087 as the rent of *palas* and *kusum* trees. Mr. Sunder shows the total increase of rental obtained as Rs. 46,947. The new rents were brought into effect from October 1896. Of the demand of Rs. 74,433, 86 per cent. was collected before the 31st March 1897. There is

a difference of opinion between the Settlement Officer and the Deputy Commissioner as to whether the new rents were easily paid and as to whether the defaulting raiyats can easily pay up the balances. A report will be submitted to the Board with reference to the realisations of the new rents. It need here only be remarked that not only has there been no increase of rates of rent since the settlement of 1865, but the average incidence of rent to the cultivated acre resultant from Mr. Sunder's settlement appears to be very much lower than the incidence of last settlement.

The expenditure of the year on the settlement amounted to Rs. 7,650, and the total cost of the operations exclusive of survey is shown by the Settlement Officer as Rs. 43,436. The cost of survey was Rs. 79,165.

DARJEELING TERAI.

Area under settlement, 230·15 square miles.

26. The area in the Darjeeling Terai under re-settlement is now shown as 230·15 square miles and as consisting of 824 *jotes*, 91 30-year lease grants, 17 market sites, and 3 blocks of khas land.

Babu Sasi Bhusan Datta, Officiating Deputy Collector, continued to be in charge of the operations which are being conducted under Act VIII (B. C.) of 1879. The survey and the early stages of the settlement work were completed previously to the year under report, and the principal work done during the year was the assessment work, including the publication of *jamabandis* under section 9 of Act VIII (B. C.) of 1879 and the disposal of objections to the assessment.

The rate proposals submitted by Mr. Nolan, Commissioner of the Rajshahi Division, for the reassessment of the Terai *jotes* were accepted in entirety by Government in orders No. 4639, dated 23rd November 1896. The Government further, as a matter of grace, conceded to the *jotedars* a limit of enhancement of 50 per cent. on the rents now paid by them. It is expected that the result of the resettlement of the *jotes* will be to give an increase of 22 per cent. on the existing revenue of Rs. 88,568. In the case of the 30-year grants it has been found that the provisions of the existing leases which limit the reassessments to half rates will only allow very small enhancements.

The objections made by 57 of the *jotedars* appear at least in some cases to be unreasonable. One of the objectors is a pleader who is receiving from his tenants rents aggregating Rs. 1,217 and who objects to an assessment of Rs. 460. It is hoped that the objecting *jotedars* will not proceed with the civil suits which they have threatened, but if the *jotedars* should persist in litigation, their unreasonable claims will be withstood. A term of 20 years' settlement has been sanctioned for the Terai *jotes* in Government orders No. 833T.R., dated the 5th October 1897. The new revenue will be brought into effect from the *kist* of January 1898. On account of the failure of recent harvests, it has appeared to be inadvisable to bring the new assessments into effect from an earlier date.

The expenditure incurred on this settlement during the year amounted to Rs. 6,535, making a total of Rs. 20,240 expended from the beginning exclusive of the cost of survey.

Minor Settlements.

PATASPUR TEMPORARILY SETTLED ESTATES IN MIDNAPORE.

Area, 54·70 square miles.

27. Babu Girish Chandra Dutt continued to be in charge of this settlement. The work done during the year was as stated below:—

- (1) Khatians of the under-tenants of *bazyaftidars* of under-raiyats and of raiyats of *nij-jote* lands were prepared and attested in 96 villages.
- (2) Rents were settled for 4,938 such tenants.

- (3) Khatians were published in draft for tenancies mentioned in (1) above. Draft publication remains to be made for one village.
- (4) Under section 105, 2850 objections were disposed of and only two objections remained pending.
- (5) Ten disputes under section 106 were disposed of and only one remained pending.
- (6) The final publication of the records was made for 88 villages and remains to be made for eight villages.
- (7) The assessment of police *paikan* lands was made.
- (8) Proposals for assessment of the land revenue were submitted by the Settlement Officer for the 18 estates.

The work that remained to be done on the 30th September 1897 was—

- (a) The disposal of two objections under section 105 and eight disputes under section 106.
- (b) The final publication of the records of eight villages.
- (c) The obtaining of *kabuliyats* from the zamindars.
- (d) The writing up of final *terijes*.
- (e) Preparation of statistical statements.
- (f) Submission of final report and deposit of records in the Collectorate record-room.

I have been much disappointed with the Settlement Officer's recent progress in this estate, and do not consider that he grappled with his difficulties with sufficient resource or energy. The difficulties have chiefly arisen (1) from the intermixture of permanently-settled lands, revenue-free, and privileged lands with the lands of the temporarily-settled estates, and (2) from the incorrectness of the survey and records of the last settlement. It is to be mentioned, however, that the Settlement Officer, like his predecessors, has suffered severely from fever in an unhealthy locality. The assessment proposals submitted by me for these estates with my letter No. 411T.S., dated 15th October 1897, if approved, will raise the existing land revenue of Rs. 34,078 to Rs. 40,259.

The total cost of settlement incurred during the year was Rs. 11,302: the cost from the beginning is returned as Rs. 12,187 on survey and Rs. 37,953 on settlement.

THE JAIPUR GOVERNMENT ESTATES IN BOGRA.

Area, 55.5 square miles.

28. These estates, now two in number (seven having recently been amalgamated into one), lie along the Northern Bengal State Railway and contain 156 villages with an area of 55.5 square miles. The present Settlement Officer, Mr. Sohrab S. Day, took charge of the settlement from the 17th June 1896. The survey and initial record-writing were finished before the 30th September 1894. Attestation of records for 121 villages, with an area of 31.11 square miles, is shown in the Settlement Officer's returns for the year under report to have been completed before the 1st October 1896, but for 91 villages records had to be reattested, and in all records for 126 villages, with an area of 49.9 square miles, were attested and reattested in the year under report. Eighteen village boundary disputes were decided during the year under report.

Rents were settled for 5,766 tenants during the year in the Government estates and for 220 tenants on application of landlords of a private estate comprised in the villages under survey. The result of the settlement, as reported at the end of September, has been that existing rents payable to Government, aggregating Rs. 39,233, have been raised to Rs. 52,240; in the private estate rents aggregating Rs. 927 have been raised to Rs. 1,162. Records were published in draft for 155 villages and finally for 119 villages during the year. The Settlement Officer during the year disposed of 610 objections preferred after draft publications, and 13 were pending at the end of the year; no dispute cases under section 106 were instituted.

The expenditure during the year was Rs. 10,922, and the total expenditure from the beginning is shewn to have been Rs. 12,625 on survey and Rs. 29,195 on settlement.

GOVERNMENT ESTATES AND TEMPORARILY-SETTLED ESTATES IN BACKERGUNGE.

Area, 61·93 square miles.

29. Seven Government estates and temporarily-settled estates, with an aggregate area of 39,632 acres, or 61·93 square miles, as detailed on the margin, are under settlement under the Bengal Tenancy Act during the year.
- | | Acres. | |
|--|--------|--|
| (1) Char Romesh ... | 1,636 | |
| (2) Char Nalgora ... | 672 | |
| (3) Surplus accretion to Char Lakhi or Padma Manesha ... | 1,434 | |
| (4) Heshamuddin ... | 9,659 | |
| (5) Krishnapura ... | 2,267 | |
| (6) Tushkhali ... | 21,104 | |
| (7) Kalupura ... | 2,960 | |
- These settlements, as well as the settlements under the old Regulations of 51 petty estates, with an aggregate area of 14,080 acres, or 22 square miles, were in charge of Babu Piyari Mohan Basu, Deputy Collector, who was assisted by Babu Revati Mohan Chakravarti, Sub-Deputy Collector. These officers were also in charge of surveys and records-of-rights proceeding in some other estates in this district which have not been undertaken in connection with settlement of the land revenue (as detailed in paragraphs 43 and 46 of this Report).

The work done during the year was as follows:—

The settlements of char Romesh and char Nalgora were sanctioned by the Board of Revenue.

The completion report for Padma Manasha was submitted to the Board with this office letter No. 293T.S., dated 14th September 1897.

In Heshamuddin settlement of rents was completed and records for all the five villages of the estate were published in draft and finally, with the result that former rents, aggregating Rs. 23,561, have been raised to Rs. 29,827, out of which rents payable to Government have been raised from Rs. 14,494 to 19,518. The completion report is pending disposal in my office.

In Krishnapura records were attested, rents settled and records published in draft and finally during the year, with the result that former rents of 644 tenants, aggregating Rs. 10,380, were raised to Rs. 13,092, out of which rents payable to Government were raised from Rs. 3,121 to Rs. 4,233, or by 35 per cent on the ground of increase of area. The completion report of this settlement has been submitted to the Board with this office letter No. 435T.S., dated 20th October 1897.

In Tushkhali, after excluding two villages from the settlement operations, in consequence of their deteriorated condition, rents were settled during the year in 21 villages for 4,153 tenants, with the result that former rents were raised from Rs. 1,10,625 to Rs. 1,21,173, out of which rents payable to Government, aggregating Rs. 93,405, were raised to Rs. 1,02,457, or by 9 per cent. on the ground chiefly of rise of prices. The records had been published in draft, but not finally for any of the 21 villages up to the close of the year.

In Kalupara the survey and initial record-writing only were completed during the year. The total expenditure incurred in the settlement of the Government estates and temporarily-settled estates during the year was Rs. 17,001.

GOVERNMENT ESTATES IN NOAKHALI.

Area, 97 square miles.

30. Five char estates in the Noakhali district, viz., char Lakhmi, char Alexander, char Rohim, char Badu, char Bharat Sen in the islands of Hatiya and Sandip, with a total area, as now stated, by the Collector of 68 square miles, 99 acres, or 71 square miles as stated by the Survey Department, were notified for survey and settlement under the Bengal Tenancy Act in Government Notification No. 3416L.R., dated 24th August 1896. Six more estates in the islands of Hatiya and Sandip in this district with an area of 26 square miles in which field survey began in March 1897 were notified under the Tenancy Act in May 1897.

The survey and record-writing were carried out for nine of these estates with an area of 84 square miles during the season 1896-97 by Mr. E. F. Berkeley, Assistant Superintendent of Survey. For supervision of the record-writing on these estates and for settlement work under the old Regulations in other estates, Babu Bhupendranath Gupta, Sub-Deputy Collector, was

appointed to be Settlement Officer and Babu Sarat Chandra Bose, Kanungo, to be Assistant Officer. These officers during the field season inspected the work of the amins, disposed of seven village boundary disputes, summarily dealt with 342 other disputes and tested entries in the *khasra* for 2,677 plots. The Settlement Officer reverted to general duty from 1st May to the 16th September; but the Assistant Settlement Officer remained on settlement work and was occupied chiefly with work on petty estates other than the estates above mentioned during the recess months.

The expenditure incurred by the Survey Department during the year on the field survey and record writing for these nine estates and on the topographical survey of other estates with an area of 345 square miles was Rs. 20,800. The expenditure incurred on settlement work was Rs. 10,238.

GOVERNMENT ESTATES IN GAYA.

Area, 102 square miles.

31. The settlement operations on the Government estates in Gaya were in charge of Mr. Stevenson-Moore, Settlement Officer of North Bihar. Babu Annada Charan Gupta, Assistant Settlement Officer, was in immediate charge throughout the year, and had the assistance for one month only of Maulavi Saiyid Ali Mazahar. Babu Annada Charan Gupta's time was chiefly occupied, however, in the Tikari estate including the Balkhara Mahal; his work in that estate is shown in paragraph 47.

The following is an abstract of the work done during the year in the Government estates:—

Records attested for—		Rents settled for tenants.	Draft records published for villages.	Objections under section 105 dis- posed of	Final records published for villages.
Square miles.	Tenants.				
12.84	615	427	68	73	102

Rents have been settled in all for 3,280 tenants in Government villages; for 451 tenants existing rents have been retained as fair; for 26 tenants rents have been settled *ex parte*; 3,254 tenants accepted the rents settled. In the aggregate in the 103 villages dealt with rents have been raised from Rs. 52,040 to Rs. 56,763, or by 9.33 per cent. In 961 holdings contained in 40 villages produce rents have been commuted to cash rents to the amount of Rs. 10,651.

Interesting statistics of cultivation, tenancies and incidence of rent in these estates and in the Tikari Ward's estate are given in paragraphs 13 and 14 of Mr. Stevenson-Moore's report and in his appendices. These will be examined when the completion report for the work in Gaya, which is promised next spring, is received.

The expenditure of the year is included in the expenditure shown against the Tikari estate.

GOVERNMENT ESTATES IN SHAHABAD.

Area, 18.32 square miles.

32. Fifteen Government estates, of which 14 are situated in the Sasaram subdivision and one is in the Sadar subdivision, and which are contained in 20 villages, have been under settlement under Chapter X of the Tenancy Act as ordered in Government Notification No. 270L.R., dated 14th January 1895, and revised Notification No. 1224L.R., dated 6th March 1896. The estates have a total area of 18 square miles, 206 acres, and contain 958 rent-paying tenants.

The settlement of these estates has been conducted by Maulvi Saiyed Sher Ali, a Deputy Collector of the district staff. The Collector, Mr. J. Windsor, has written a clear report on the work of the year which is appended to this Report. Survey, record-writing and attestation were completed before the year under report, but the records were reattested during the year before settlement of rents was made. Rents were settled by the Settlement Officer during the year after discussion and approval of rate reports for all the 958 rent-paying tenants, with the result that former rents were raised, almost entirely on the ground of rise of prices, from Rs. 19,784 to Rs. 22,926. No appeals were preferred to the Special Judge. For 14 out of the 15 estates records were finally published before the close of the year 1304 Fasli (11th September 1897). In the case of one estate further enquiry remained to be made at the end of the year.

The completion reports have yet to be submitted.

The expenditure incurred during the year was Rs. 656.

SETTLEMENT OF THE KOLHAN ESTATE, SINGHBHUM.

Area, 1,403·7 square miles.

33. This settlement is not under the control of the Director of Land Records, but it is mentioned in this Report under the orders of Government.

The survey and settlement operations in the Kolhan began in 1894-95. Mr. J. A. Craven (senior) was in charge of the operations, and Babu J. N. Chakravarti, Deputy Collector, is in present charge of the work. The operations were carried on under instructions framed by the Board and approved by Government, so as to meet the special requirements of the tract dealt with. The estate comprises 911 villages with an aggregate area of 1,403·7 square miles.

The work done during the year was as follows:—Survey of 173 villages with an area of 281·8 square miles, comprising 8,521 holdings and 151,445 plots; extraction and checking of field areas, comparing *khatians* with *khasras*, copying of the *khatians*, preparation of abstract *khatian*, *jamabandi*; attestation of *khatians* for 8,521 holdings; calculation of the rents of holdings; preparation of *parchas* and compilation of statistical statements for 173 villages.

In connection with this work 196 boundary disputes, 1,343 *jote* disputes, and 1,414 cases of disputed sales and mortgages were disposed of, and some work was also done in connection with the administration of the protected forests.

The only work remaining is reported to be the preparation and exchange of pattas and *kabuliyats* and the preparation of the final record. The former aggregate rents amounting to Rs. 64,828 have been raised to Rs. 1,77,300, or by 173·5 per cent.

The cost of survey and settlement during the year was Rs. 45,312, and the total cost of the operations has been Rs. 1,88,256. The rate of cost per square mile is Rs. 134 and per acre 3 annas and $4\frac{1}{4}$ pies only.

CHAPTER III.

SURVEYS AND RECORD OF RIGHTS UNDER CHAPTER X OF THE BENGAL TENANCY ACT, VIII OF 1885, NOT UNDERTAKEN IN CONNECTION WITH SETTLEMENT OF THE LAND REVENUE AND IN ESTATES OTHER THAN ESTATES UNDER THE COURT OF WARDS.

34. This chapter treats of the surveys and record of rights, undertaken in connection with settlement of the land revenue, which are proceeding under Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act in whole districts, or in estates other than estates under the Court of Wards. Chapter IV treats of such operations in estates under the Court of Wards.

The major operations under this head are (1) the North Bihar operations and (2) the survey and record of rights in the estates of the Maharaja of Hill Tippera in the Tippera and Noakhali districts. The minor operations are the survey and record of rights in (1) the Chaurasi estate in the 24-Paraganas, (2) the Tantibunya estate in Khulna, (3) the Gangamandal estate in Tippera, (4) the Chiknikandi estate and other estates in Backergunge.

Major Operations.

NORTH BIHAR.

35. The settlement work in North Bihar continued to be in charge of Mr. C. J. Stevenson-Moore, c.s., who had a maximum staff of 28 Assistant Settlement Officers during the field season and a minimum staff of 10 Assistant Settlement Officers during the recess months. Mr. R. B. Hughes, c.s., was in immediate charge of the settlement work for part of the year in the Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga districts, and Mr. J. Kerr, c.s., and Mr. M. Gauntlett, c.s., were in immediate charge in Champaran and Saran districts respectively. These Assistant Settlement Officers reverted to general duty towards the close of the cold weather on account of the exigencies of the famine.

The following table shows progress under the main heads of settlement work in the five years 1892-93 to 1896-97 so far as information is available in my office:—

HEADS.	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.	1896-97.	Remaining on 1st October 1897.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<i>Muzaffarpur (area 3,063 square miles and 4,510 villages).</i>	Villages.	Villages.	Villages.	Villages.	Villages.	Villages.	There are some discrepancies in the figures entered in this table against the Champaran and Muzaffarpur districts which the Settlement Officer will be requested to explain.
1. Khanapuri or initial record-writing.	1,035	1,384	1,642	439	Finished before the year began.	None	
2. Attestation ...	320	712	1,361	1,633	452	5	
3. Draft publication ...	311	696	1,265	1,541	650	147	
4. Final „ ...	Nil	Nil	768	1,161	1,729	897	
<i>Champaran (area 3,280 square miles and 2,855 villages).</i>							
1. Khanapuri or initial record-writing.	259	324	1,171	1,047	None	None	
2. Attestation ...	76	230	373	1,075	491	600	
3. Draft publication ...	71	300	251	632	718	863	
4. Final „ ...	Nil	54	252	372	891	1,286	
<i>Saran (area 2,622 square miles and 4,296 villages).</i>							
1. Khanapuri or initial record-writing.	Nil	1,208	Nil	1,235	318	1,535	
2. Attestation ...	Nil	48	1,160	Nil	934	2,154	
3. Draft publication...	Nil	48	217	867	615	2,549	
4. Final „ ...	Nil	Nil	57	11	998	3,230	
<i>Darbhanga (area 3,335 square miles and 3,440 villages).</i>							
1. Khanapuri or initial record-writing.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	638	2,697	

The following statement gives more particulars of the work done during the year under report:—

NAME OF DISTRICT.	Number of Assistant Settlement Officers employed during the year or for part of the year.	Area in square miles for which records were written.	Village boundary disputes decided.	Other disputes dealt with at the Khanapuri stage.	Area in square miles for which records were attested.	Number of tenants for whom existing rents were recorded and status attested.	Number of tenants for whom rents were settled.	Number of villages for which draft records were published.	Number of objections under section 106 heard and considered.	Number of disputes decided under section 106.	Number of villages for which records were finally published.	Number of villages for which final khatahs were copied.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Muzaffarpur ...	11, but 4 for periods not exceeding two months and only 5 for the whole year.	Finished before the year began.	Nil	Nil	436.42	107,440	6,987	550	12,576	770	1,729	1,278
Champaran ...	7, of whom one for less than one month and only 2 for the whole year.	Ditto ...	Nil	Nil	665	68,698	24,970	718	4,050	914	891	930
Saran ...	14, viz. 4 for the whole year or nearly the whole year, and the rest for periods from two months to six months.	211.8	130	3,466	477.09	173,819	7,168	615	6,452	256	998	1,125
Darbhanga ...	2(a) for the field season only.	585.18	301	15,904	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) Mr. Hughes is counted in Muzaffarpur only.

The reviews of the work of the year which are furnished by the Settlement Officer, Mr. Stevenson-Moore, and which are appended to this report, are full

and very interesting. Some of the matters which Mr. Stevenson-Moore has discussed will form the subject of separate report. My remarks will be confined to the chief features of the year's work and to the general results so far obtained in the operations.

36. *Muzaffarpur*.—Attestation of records except for five villages was finished in this district during the year under report, and the work remaining consists chiefly of case-work (of which at the end of the year there was still a heavy file consisting of 905 objections under section 105 and 1,135 cases under section 106), publication of records, completion of statistics and preparation of the completion report and the work of computation and of recovery of cost.

The most noticeable features in the year's work are the check to progress caused by the famine, the large amount of case-work, publication of records and office work accomplished, and the success obtained in recovery of the cost of the survey from landlords and raiyats in Hajipur thana to which area recovery proceedings were confined.

The Muzaffarpur district has been surveyed in over four million plots or survey numbers. It will be remembered that subdivisions of fields or *khyaris* have not been numbered separately; efforts have been made to keep down the number of plots in order to curtail the record-writing. It is not to be hoped that this record has been made without a percentage of error. If only one field in a hundred has been wrongly recorded, 40,000 fields have been entered in tenancies other than those to which they belong. Over a million tenancies, or separate parcels of land, have been recorded. This represents almost twice the number of agricultural tenancies in the whole of England, Scotland and Wales (see page 69 of the Statesman's Year Book for 1896); the tenancies in Muzaffarpur are of course much smaller than the average farms or agricultural holdings in Great Britain, but apart from survey the labour of record of rights in the case of a rice-field of $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of an acre in Muzaffarpur is probably as great as in the case of a 40 acre turnip-field in Great Britain. The number of fields and tenancies recorded in Muzaffarpur is not greater in proportion to area than was recorded in the survey of 1880—85 in the Ballia district, the nearest district in the North-Western Provinces.

Complete statistics of status of tenants have not yet been compiled for the Muzaffarpur district, but it is understood that the number of tenants of degree inferior to that of raiyats holding at fixed rates and fixed rents and occupancy raiyats, i.e., the non-occupancy raiyats and the under-raiyats, do not, together hold so much as 10 per cent of the tenancies. From the beginning of the operations rents have been settled in this district for only 16,481 tenancies, (omitting rents settled for 595 *diara* tenancies) out of 1,036,000 tenancies in the district, or for not two tenancies in a hundred, with the result that the former rents of the tenants affected, which aggregated Rs. 1,33,932, have been raised to Rs. 1,45,759. The average incidence of rent to the acre in Muzaffarpur, so far as figures have been compiled, as paid by various classes of raiyats is shown by the Settlement Officer as follows:—

	On entire area of holdings.				On each cultivat- ed acre.		
	Rs.	A.	P.		Rs.	A.	P.
Raiyats at fixed rates pay on an average ...	3	6	4	to the acre	3	14	0
Settled and occupancy raiyats ...	3	15	9	"	4	5	5
Non-occupancy raiyats ...	4	13	9	"	5	1	6
Under-raiyats ...	4	15	9	"	5	4	5

Under-raiyats generally pay produce rents. The settlement expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 1,19,174, and the total expenditure from the beginning of the operations has been about Rs. 5,70,000 on survey and Rs. 5,19,953 on settlement, or nearly 11 lakhs in all. The recoveries made from landlords and tenants during the year amounted to Rs. 39,179, and from the beginning amount to Rs. 73,230.

37. *Champaran*.—The programme for completion of attestation of records in this district was not accomplished on account of the famine. Records remain to be attested in 600 villages in the north of the district covering an area of 520 square miles and containing about $2\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of plots. This work will be finished in season 1897-98. The work of settling rents was confined during the year to areas where distress was not acute. In such areas the rents of 24,970 tenants were raised during the year entirely on the ground of excess area from Rs. 2,25,084 to Rs. 2,43,650. As in preceding years, the

large number of applications brought in this district for settlement of rents is noticeable. The finding adverse to any custom of measurement of holdings in the Bettiah Raj before settlement or resettlement of lands with tenants and the harsh treatment of his tenants by the zamindar of Madhuban are matters to which the Settlement Officer rightly gives prominence in his report.

Figures compiled for 1,750 out of 2,855 villages in this district show that settled and occupancy raiyats make up $92\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the whole number of tenants. From the beginning of the operations rents have been settled in this district for 94,604 tenancies out of 402,800 tenancies, for which records have been attested, or for over 23 per cent. of this number, with the result that the former rents of the tenants affected, which aggregated Rs. 8,48,283, have been raised to Rs. 9,25,076, or by 9 per cent. The average incidence of rent to the acre in Champaran so far as statistics have been compiled is as follows:—

	Rs. A. P.				Rs. A. P.		
On entire area of holdings—							
Raiyats holding at fixed rates or fixed rents pay to the acre ...	1	1	6	on each acre cultivated.	1	4	2
Settled and occupancy raiyats pay ...	2	0	3	„	2	3	5
Non-occupancy raiyats pay ...	1	15	5	„	2	3	11
Under-raiyats pay ...	1	9	2	„	1	10	8

Non-occupancy raiyats and under-raiyats probably hold inferior lands: they pay produce rents for great part of their lands.

The settlement expenditure of the year amounted to Rs. 87,860, and the total expenditure from the beginning of the operations has been about Rs. 5,08,000 on survey and Rs. 4,28,720 on settlement. Recoveries from landlords and raiyats during the year on account of the cost of the survey and record of rights amounted during the year to Rs. 73,390, and altogether Rs. 1,18,567 have now been recovered (including Rs. 7,681 allowed to the landlords on account of advances to patwaries and coolies at the beginning of the survey operations). On account of the famine no attempt was made to collect from raiyats during the year except in some villages in the Bettiah thana, where Rs. 217 only were collected.

38. *Saran*.—In Saran more than half of the field survey and record-writing but not one-fourth of the attestation work in this district have now been completed. In this district also the attestation programme of the year under report was curtailed on account of the famine.

So far as statistics have been compiled it has been ascertained that settled and occupancy raiyats hold about 78 per cent. of the tenancies.

The rents of 7,163 tenants were settled during the year, and were raised generally on compromise, and chiefly on the ground of "excess area," from Rs. 91,215 to Rs. 96,462. From the beginning of the operations rents have been settled in this district for 49,106 out of 304,264 tenancies, or for 16 per cent. of the whole number, with the result that former rents of the tenants affected, aggregating Rs. 5,47,336, have been raised to Rs. 6,11,651, or by $11\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The average incidence of rent to the acre in Saran, so far as rents have been recorded, is as follows:—

	Rs. A. P.				Rs. A. P.		
On entire area of holdings—							
Raiyats holding at fixed rates or fixed rents pay to the acre ...	3	8	0	on each acre cultivated.	3	13	9
Settled and occupancy raiyats pay...	3	14	6	"	4	1	10
Non-occupancy " " ...	3	10	7	"	3	13	2
Under-raiyats " " ...	3	15	6	"	4	0	11

The expenditure of the year on settlement amounted to Rs. 88,135, and the total expenditure from the beginning on settlement exclusive of survey has been Rs. 2,16,352. As it has become evident that the cost of survey and record of rights in Saran will be greater than in Muzaffarpur and Champaran on account of the larger number of fields, tenants and proprietors and the consequent greater complication of the record-writing an acreage rate of ten annas has been sanctioned for recovery in this district against eight annas sanctioned for Muzaffarpur and Champaran. The only recovery made during the year under report was of a sum of Rs. 50,000 from the Hatwa Raj.

39. *Darbhanga*.—Field survey and record-writing began in this district in the season under report in the Somastipur and Dalsingh Serai thanas instead of in the north of the district, the programme having been changed on account of scarcity being much more severely felt in the north of the district.

A marked feature of the work in this district so far as it has gone is the enormous number of disputes. Apart from village boundary disputes, which were 326 in number in 661 villages dealt with, disputes were found to exist with regard to 57,602 of the 1,085,010 fields surveyed. One field in every 20 was disputed therefore. And it will be remembered that as rents are not recorded till a later stage, these disputes are exclusive of disputes with regard to rents. The Revenue Officers, two in number, who supervised the record-writing, not counting Mr. Hughes who was partly engaged in Muzaffarpur, were only able to deal with the disputes with regard to 15,904 plots, and disputes affecting 41,698 plots remained to be dealt with at the attestation stage. Mr. Stevenson-Moore proposes to increase the number of officers employed in the supervision of kharapuri this season in Darbhanga, with a view to their disposing of a larger number of disputes at this stage.

The settlement expenditure incurred in the year was Rs. 17,089.

**ESTATES OF THE MAHARAJA OF HILL TIPPERA IN TIPPERA AND NOAKHALI
DISTRICTS KNOWN AS CHAKLA ROSHNABAD.**

Area, 556·85 square miles.

40. Mr. J. G. Cumming, c.s., continued to be in charge of this settlement till the 27th July 1897, when he was temporarily transferred to the Midnapore district as Collector. During the field season a staff of six Assistant Settlement Officers was employed chiefly on attestation work, and during the hot weather and rains two Assistant Settlement Officers were employed on case-work. Mr. Cumming was himself occupied chiefly with case-work for seven months, and for the rest of the year chiefly on inspection. The programme of the field season was to attest records for an area of 249·04 square miles comprised in 636 villages. This programme was accomplished except in 26 villages with an area of 29·32 square miles, and would have been entirely accomplished but for the early reversion of officers to general duty on account of famine exigencies in other districts.

The following is an abstract of the work done during the year:—

VILLAGE BOUNDARY DISPUTES DECIDED.	RECORDS ATTESTED FOR—				RENTS SETTLED FOR—		Records/draft published for—	Objections under sec- tion 105 heard and considered.	Disputes decided under sec- tion 106.	Records finally published for—
	Villages.	Area.	Plots.	Average num- ber of plots attested by each officer per mensem.	Tenure- holders.	Raiyats.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
2	600	220 square miles.	416,960	16,770	277	3,297	112 villages completely; 210 villages in part.	100	6	88 villages.

The result of the rent settlements was that the rents of the 277 tenure-holders were raised from Rs. 8,272 to Rs. 13,458, or by 62·6 per cent., and the rents of the 3,297 raiyats were raised from Rs. 33,224 to Rs. 39,836, or by 19·8 per cent., partly on the ground of rise in the price of rice, and mostly on the ground of excess area.

Seventy-five appeals against decisions in the fair rent cases were decided during the year, with the result that the decisions of the Settlement Officer and of his Assistants were upheld in 61 cases, reversed in 2 cases and modified in 5 cases, while 7 cases were recommended for rehearing. Judgments in appeal on the merits were given in only 23 out of the 61 cases in which the decisions were upheld; 298 appeals were pending before the Special Judge in fair rent cases at the end of the year. The attention of the higher authorities was drawn to the delays which have occurred in disposal of the settlement appeals, and it is hoped that the pending appeals will be promptly dealt with. The result of delays in disposal of such appeals is to bring the settlement work to a standstill; uncertainty is created in the minds of the landlords or tenants which prevents disposal of work over large areas, records cannot be completed and expenditure is greatly increased.

The progress in this settlement continues to be slow. Up to the end of the year records had been published in draft since the beginning of the operations for 222 villages and finally for 185 villages out of the 1,507 villages under settlement. The Maharaja's Manager, Mr. McMinn, is unwilling that the work should go on faster, and asks that the number of officers employed should be limited because he is not able to give adequate attention to the work if it is conducted at many centres at once. The Settlement Officer has had to contend with obstruction and violence on the part of the tenants. On two occasions his tent was burned by discontented persons, and in one of his Assistant Settlement Officer's camps the tent ropes were cut at night, and the Assistant Settlement Officer's furniture was removed and thrown into a river bed near the camp. With reference to the remarks made by Mr. Cumming in paragraph 17 of his report I have to add an expression of my opinion to the effect that enough has not been done by the Manager to conciliate the opposition of the tenants, to demonstrate the fair intentions of the landlord, and to push on the work of compromise and orderly disposal of cases where reasonable compromise has been refused by the tenants. At the same time I do not forget Mr. McMinn's difficulties in supervision. Mr. McMinn has not, I understand, the assistance of qualified subordinates, and is not able to delegate full powers to his subordinates to dispose of disputes by compromise and has not himself in all matters full authority to deal with the tenants.

The expenditure incurred on settlement work during the year was Rs. 63,005-8-5, and the total expenditure incurred on survey and settlement work on these estates down to the end of the year has been Rs. 3,94,816, or at the rate of 17 annas 6 pies an acre so far as the work has gone. Proposals for apportionment of cost of the operations were submitted during the year, and orders on this subject have recently been received.

MINOR OPERATIONS.

Chaurasi estate in the 24-Parganas. Area, 20,399 acres or 33 square miles.

41. The settlement of this estate was completed on the 31st December 1896. The Settlement Officer, Babu Jotindra Nath Gupta, reverted to general duty on the 2nd February 1897, and submitted his completion report on the settlement operations at the end of August 1897. This settlement was taken up on the application of the proprietors, Maharaja Durga Charan Law and others.

Exclusive of a small village, Muraridana, with an area of 212 acres, which was dealt with in separate proceedings, the estate comprises 43 villages, as finally determined in the maps and records, with an area of 20,399 acres. This area is got after deducting from the total area of 21,395 acres, surveyed lands having an area of 996 acres, which appertain to other estates. Survey and *khasra*-writing were completed in the year 1894-95. Attestation of records began in November 1895 and was completed by 30th April 1896. In all 58,933 fields have been measured and 14,377 tenancies and parcels of land have been recorded in this estate. Only 800 of the tenancies are held direct from the proprietor, and the under-tenants include 8,031 under-raiyats.

On an average a raiyati holding in this estate is about 3 acres, but a raiyat sometimes has more than one holding.

Rents are understood to have been settled for 601 tenancies held direct from the proprietors in the preceding year and for 96 tenancies during the year, or for 697 tenancies in all. Draft publication of records was made for 18 villages in 1895-96 and for the remaining 25 villages in 1896-97, and final publication of records for all villages was made between September and December 1896.

Appeals to the Special Judge to the number of 191 have been preferred; out of this number only 12 had been decided down to the end of the year.

The total rent-paying area held by tenants is 16,073 acres. The total rent paid to the proprietors by tenure-holders and raiyats before settlement was Rs. 21,876, and the total settled rent payable to the proprietors is Rs. 28,595. The average rate of the former rents paid by settled raiyats was Rs. 2-15 per cultivated acre, and the average settled rate is Rs. 3-7. The increase of rent obtained by the proprietors, which is 30 per cent., is due to assessment of excess

area and to enhancement of the abnormally low rents in some parts of the estate. No abwabs are levied on this estate.

It is noticeable that the Settlement Officer has found that under-raiyats who are numerous on this state can by custom or under conditions acquire rights of occupancy in this estate.

The cost of survey was Rs. 9,886 for the total area surveyed, or 7 annas 4 pies per acre, and the cost of settlement was Rs. 10,287, from which deductions on account of court-fees, process-fees and fines, sale of furniture, &c., will be made. The Settlement Officer shows the net cost of settlement as Rs. 9,166, or 6 annas 10 pies per acre. The combined cost of survey and settlement is, therefore, 14 annas 2 pies.

Tantibuniya estate in Khulna.—Area, 19·95 square miles.

42. The only work done by the Settlement Officer during the year in the case of this estate was the disposal of two cases under section 104 and five cases under section 106 of the Tenancy Act remanded in appeal by the Special Judge. This necessitated the republication in draft of portions of the records of four villages and final publication for a second time of portions of five villages. An appeal case under section 104 and four appeals under section 106 are still pending before the Special Judge.

The cost of settlement work during the year was Rs. 1,354. The total cost of survey was Rs. 5,219 and of settlement has been Rs. 6,356. Recovery of cost is in progress; Rs. 2,383 were recovered during the year in addition to Rs. 5,500 deposited by the applicants for survey. Certificates will be filed, the Settlement Officer reports, for the realization of the balance.

Backergunge Estates.—Area, 43·51 square miles.

43. Babu Piyari Mohan Basu, Settlement Officer of the Government estates in Backergunge, is also Settlement Officer for the private estates notified under Chapter X of the Tenancy Act.

In the Ulania taluks settlement work had been completed before the beginning of the year under report except recovery of cost, Rs. 12,564 out of Rs. 16,130 have been recovered, and Rs. 3,566 remain to be recovered from the talukdars in instalments.

In the Chiknikandi group of 17 villages with an area of 27·24 square miles which are under survey on account of serious disputes between the landlords and tenants, survey and record-writing were completed in seven villages before the year under report and in three villages during the year, and the five villages remaining are to be surveyed in 1897-98. Fifty village boundary disputes were decided during the year. Records were attested for two villages and rents were settled for 1,455 tenants in four villages with the result that the former rents were raised from Rs. 26,489 to Rs. 26,633. Records were published in draft for six villages during the year and finally for one village.

In taluk Krishna Ram Sen, which is comprised in 11 villages and has an area of 9,451 acres, and in taluk Guha Narayan Guha which includes the Tatirkati estates, and which has an area of 967 acres, only the survey and record-writing were carried out during the year. Char Gazipura with an area of 2,710 acres was notified for survey and record of rights only in August 1897.

The expenditure incurred during the year was Rs. 2,724 in Chiknikandi, Rs. 2,774 in Krishna Ram Sen, and Rs. 359 in the Tatirkati estate.

Gangamandal Estate in Tippera.—Area, 2·69 square miles.

44. This settlement is in charge of Mr. J. G. Cumming, Settlement Officer of the Maharaja's estates in Tippera and Noakhali. The record of one village with an area of 1·53 square miles and containing 497 tenants was attested during the year, rents were settled for 44 tenants, and records were published in draft for one village and finally for three villages.

CHAPTER IV.

WARDS' ESTATES.

BURDWAN RAJ ESTATES.

Area under survey and record of rights, 130 square miles.

45. As stated in paragraph 111 of the Director's report for the year ending 30th September 1896, the settlement work, except the writing of the completion report, was finished during that year. The completion report of the Settlement Officer, Babu Sukumar Halder, was received from the Commissioner in January 1897 and has yet to be reviewed.

WARDS' ESTATES, BACKERGUNGE.

46. The settlement work in the Dakhin Shahbazzpur estates and in the Srirampur estate was completed before the year under report, and the only work done by the Settlement Officer during the year in these estates was the recovery of survey and settlement cost, and the submission of the completion report for Srirampur. Sums aggregating Rs. 14,725 and Rs. 6,873 were recovered in Dakhin Shahbazzpur and Srirampur during the year, leaving balances of Rs. 3,106 and Rs. 81 only to be recovered out of Rs. 78,261 and Rs. 81. The results of the recovery work are satisfactory.

TIKARI WARD'S ESTATE, INCLUDING BALKHARA IN GAYA.

Area, 481.91 square miles.

47. The settlement of these estates was in charge of Mr. Stevenson-Moore, c.s., and in immediate charge of Babu Annada Charan Gupta, Deputy Collector who had the assistance for one month of Maulavi Saiyyid Ali Mazahar.

The work done in the Tikari and Balkhara estates during the year was as follows :—

Village boundary disputes decided under Survey Act.	RECORDS ATTESTED FOR—			Rents settled for tenants.	Draft records published for villages.	Objections under section 105 decided and considered.	Disputes under section 105 decided.	Records finally published.	Final khatahs copied for villages.
	Villages.	Square miles.	Tenants.						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3	93	101.35	9,797	13	93	557	18	145	?

Good progress was made; and the only work remaining is a small amount of case work, final publication of records for 33 villages, completion of statistics and enquiries with regard to the condition of the poorer classes of Gaya, to which much attention was given during the year, and computation and recovery of cost of survey in Tikari and Balkhara and the preparation of the completion report. It is hoped that the completion report on these operations will be submitted next recess.

The expenditure of the year including expenditure in the Government estates (see paragraph 31 of this Report, amounted to Rs. 17,758).

NARHAN WARD'S ESTATE IN MONGHYR.

Area, 48.19 square miles.

48. The Settlement Officer is Mr. C. J. Stevenson-Moore, c. s. The work done during the year by Babu Atul Chandra Kerr, Assistant Settlement Officer is shewn below :—

Villages under survey and record of rights.	Records attested for square miles.	Tenants.	Rents settled for tenants.	Records draft published for villages.	Objections under section 105 disposed of.
60	48.19	11,097	50	28	2

Little work remains to be done unless a large number of applications for settlement of rents should be filed. The work in this settlement also was prematurely closed in the season under report, because the Assistant Settlement Officer's services were required for famine work.

The result of the settlement of rents of 50 tenants was that former rents aggregating Rs. 1,263 were raised to Rs. 1,378 on the ground of excess area. The expenditure of the year amounted to Rs. 3,169, and the total expenditure on settlement of this estate from the beginning exclusive of survey has been Rs. 5,313.

CHAPTER V.

CHARGE AND TOURS OF DIRECTOR AND NOTICE OF OFFICERS.

49. Mr. P. C. Lyon, c.s., was in charge of the Department up to the 23rd November 1896, when he went on furlough, and I returned from furlough and resumed charge. I held charge for the rest of the year with the exception of the period from 23rd June to 5th September 1897, during which I was on special duty in Orissa in connection with the settlement of that province, and Mr. C. G. H. Allen, c.s., officiated for me in addition to carrying on his duties as Settlement Officer of Chittagong.

Mr. P. C. Lyon visited Sonopore in the district of Saran from 18th to 21st November 1896, and discussed arrangements for the season's work with the Survey and Settlement Officers. I made the following tours :—

Tippera and Backergunge, from 8th to 17th December 1896.—Inspected the settlement office and the registers and returns of prices current at Comilla. Saw the Sarail records in the Collectorate record-room; and discussed the Sarail collections with the Collector. Also discussed settlement appeals with the Judge of Tippera.

Inspected the settlement camp at Phul Gazi with Mr. Cumming (11 miles east from Fenny), saw the Subdivisional Officer of Fenny and the Commissioner of the Division. Inspected settlement work at Barisal and discussed it with the Collector. Also inspected returns of prices current, and visited the Collectorate record-room to see the Dakhin Shahbazpur records.

Arrah, Bankipore, Muzaffarpur, Motihari, Bettiah, and Samastipur, from 21st December 1896 to 4th January 1897.—Inspected settlement work at Arrah. Discussed settlement work with Captain Crichton and Mr. Hughes and visited the settlement office at Muzaffarpur. Conferred at Motihari with Mr. Stevenson-Moore, the Settlement Officer, Captain Crichton, and Messrs. Kerr, Hughes and Gauntlett about *diara* questions and other matters, and discussed settlement work with the Settlement Officer and inspected the settlement office. Visited the attestation camp of Babu Harbans Sahai at Bhartoiya (20 miles north of Bettiah) and inspected the office for registration of mutations under Act III (B.C.) of 1895 at Bettiah. Visited the office of the Manager of Narhan and the survey camp at Samastipur, and discussed the survey work with Lieutenant Symonds and Mr. Kraal.

Chandbally, Bhadrak, Cuttack, Khurda, Pipli and Puri from 9th to 30th January 1897.—In company with the Settlement Officer, Mr. Maddox, inspected the work of Babu Sarada Nanda Das and Babu Hara Krishna Mohanti, Assistant Settlement Officers, who were settling rents at Baligaon near Chandbally and at Sadanandpur between Chandbali and Bhadrak. At Sadanandpur Mr. W. B. Thomson, Assistant Settlement Officer, met me. Inspected copying-work and statistical work at Bhadrak. Inspected the work of Babu Satis Chandra Guha, Assistant Settlement Officer, who was settling rents at Bhubaneshwarpur 22 miles from Bhadrak and met Mr. Kingsford, Assistant Settlement Officer, at Akuapada. On 14th went by canal from Akuapada to Tangi (34 miles), where I met Mr. Webster, Assistant Settlement Officer. On 15th inspected the work of Babu Amrita Sekar Mukerji, who was settling rents at Borochona. I halted from 16th to 19th January at Cuttack and inspected the settlement office and record-room; met Mr. H. McPherson, Assistant Settlement Officer in charge in Puri, visited the Cuttack town khas mahal office to make enquiries about the assessment of rents in the town of Cuttack; inspected the work of registration of prices-current in the Cuttack Collectorate; called on the Commissioner and arranged for a conference of officers on settlement matters and maintenance of records in Orissa. On the 20th January, Mr. Maddox

drove me to Jankia in Puri (40 miles south of Cuttack), where we met Mr. J. Taylor, Assistant Settlement Officer in Khurda. On the 20th and 21st we inspected the work of Babu Jagannath Dutt, Assistant Settlement Officer, and Babu Nadia Chand Dutt, who were settling rents. On the 22nd I inspected the Khurda Settlement office, met Mr. W. H. Lee, Collector of Puri, and obtained information from Mr. J. N. Gupta, Subdivisional Officer of Khurda, as to the rent collections and other matters. On the 23rd I returned to Cuttack.

A preliminary conference was held in the Commissioner's house on the 24th January to discuss the subjects of maintenance of land records, term of settlement and percentage of assets to be left to the zamindars.

At a conference held in the Commissioner's house, at which His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor and the Hon'ble Mr. Stevens were present, all the subjects mentioned above were again discussed, also the subjects of chaukidars, paiks and khandaits, and other settlement matters.

Rules for the settlement of rent were discussed with the Hon'ble Mr. Stevens and revised.

On the 27th I drove from Cuttack to Pipli (28 miles) with the Hon'ble Mr. Stevens and Messrs. Maddox and H. McPherson. On the way inspected the work of Babu Sudarsan Das, Assistant Settlement Officer, who was settling rents at Baliana.

Revised rules for dealing with *thani* rents and lands growing crops other than special crops, etc., were submitted at Puri to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor and were approved.

Dholi and Pusa, from 6th to 10th February 1897.—I met Dr. J. W. Leather, Agricultural Chemist to the Government of India, at Agrail Factory near Dholi in Muzaffarpur and went with him to inspect the Pusa Farm.

Noakhali and Barisal, from 15th to 22nd February 1897.—Went to Noakhali with Veterinary Captain F. Raymond. Visited the survey camp at Noakhali and discussed survey and settlement arrangements with Mr. L. F. Berkeley, the Assistant Superintendent of Survey, the Settlement Officer, Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta, and the Collector, Mr. Surja Kumar Agasti. Inspected the returns of prices current and the price lists prepared under the Tenancy Act in the Collectorate. Captain Raymond and I discussed the subject of improving the breeds of cattle with the Collector. On my way back to Calcutta, visited the settlement office at Barisal.

Contai in Midnapore, from 1st to 7th March 1897.—Went to Contai with Lieutenant Symonds, the Officiating Superintendent of Settlement-Surveys. Discussed Pataspur settlement work with the Settlement Officer Babu Girish Chandra Dutt, who met me here, and inspected settlement records at Contai. Drew up rules for the record-writing in the test survey of Majnamutha, and saw Lieutenant Symonds test the survey in a village near Contai.

Chittagong and Comilla, from 23rd March to 1st April 1897.—Inspected the settlement office and visited the Collectorate record-room in company with the Collector and the Settlement Officer. Discussed settlement matters with the Settlement Officer and saw three of the Assistant Settlement Officers.

Visited Comilla and discussed the progress of the settlement of the Maharaja's estates with the Settlement Officer, also the subject of apportionment of cost of survey. Also saw the Collector, the Special Judge, and the Manager of the Maharaja's estates.

Jaipur Government Estates in Bagra, from 11th to 13th April 1897.—Inspected the settlement work at Jaipur.

Siliguri, from 14th and 15th April and 13th June 1897.—Inspected the Darjeeling Terai settlement office.

Mr. Allen made the following tours while he officiated as Director:—

Contai in Midnapore, from 5th to 10th July 1897.—Inspected the Pataspur settlement work at Contai. Discussed with the local officers various matters in connection with the proposed survey and settlement of the Majnamutha estate.

Backergunge, Comilla and Chittagong, from 18th to 25th July 1897.—Inspected the settlement offices at Barisal, Comilla and Chittagong.

Muzaffarpur, Motihari, Bettiah, Darbhanga and Chapra, from 3rd to 10th August 1897.—Inspected settlement work in North Bihar.

Chittagong, from 16th to 19th August 1897.—Inspected the settlement work,

During the year under report Mr. Lyon, Mr. Allen and I were on tour, respectively for 4, 83 and 26 days, exclusive of the period of my deputation to Orissa (two and-a-half months) from 23rd June to 5th September 1897.

50. The Settlement Officers and Assistant Settlement Officers below named rendered specially good service during the year, viz., Messrs. C. G. H. Allen, A. S. Carey, J. G. Cumming, M. Gauntlett, R. Hughes, J. Kerr, D. S. Kingsford, H. McPherson, S. L. Maddox, C. J. Stevenson-Moore, W. B. Thomson, J. Webster, Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur, Babu Prasanna Kumar Banerjee, Babu Sriram Chandra Basu, Babu Pyari Mohan Basu, Babu Sri Gopal Bhattacharjya, Babu Durga Charan Ghose, Maulvi Gholam Ghous, Babu Gobind Chandra Das Gupta, Maulvi Ashfak Husain, Pandit Rama Ballabh Misra, Babu Jogendra Narayan Mitra, Mr. J. Taylor.

Mr. Allen, Settlement Officer of Chittagong, has an exceptional knowledge of revenue work; he has carried out the settlement of Chittagong with great success. His recent work while he officiated as Director of this Department is known to the Board and to Government.

Mr. Maddox, who holds in Orissa the most difficult and most responsible settlement post in the province, continues to do excellent work. He has pushed on the work of settling rents with great success and he is now ably and thoroughly dealing with the work of assessing the land revenue. Mr. C. J. Stevenson-Moore supervises settlement work in five Bihar districts with great ability and complete grasp of the principles and details of the work; I would desire to call special attention to Mr. Stevenson-Moore's well written and interesting reports. Messrs. Maddox and Stevenson-Moore are fortunate in having enthusiastic and capable Assistants. Mr. Cumming in Tippera by tact and ability has overcome obstructions and difficulties; Mr. Cumming is conspicuous for his sound and well thought-out methods of work and for his attention to details.

51. I wish to record here my acknowledgments to Captain Crichton, Superintendent of Settlement Surveys, for cordial co-operation and advice.

Acknowledgments of co-operation of Commissioners of Divisions and other officers. With regard to the co-operation of Commissioners and District Officers in settlement work, I have to mention that Mr. Nolan lays down or formulates the principle of settlement work in his Division. Mr. Cooke, Commissioner of Orissa, did much work towards the end of the year under report in connection with the settlement of land revenue. Mr. Forbes gave attention to the Palamau settlement. No other Commissioner, so far as I am aware, gives attention to the settlements under the Director's control. Of the District Officers who share with the Director the supervision of settlements under the Director's control, Mr. Beatson-Bell in Backergunge, Mr. Windsor in Shahabad, and Babu Umesh Chunder Batabyal in Bogra have done most. Of District Officers who are not in the chain of settlement correspondence, Mr. Hare in Muzaffarpur, Mr. Savage in Gaya, and Mr. Growse in Cuttack have given useful advice and assistance. Babu Jagabandhu Bhattacharjya, Subdivisional Officer of Contai, gave useful assistance in arrangements for the test survey of villages of the Majnamutha estate.

I desire here also to acknowledge assistance given in the survey and settlement work by Mr. E. Macnaghten, Secretary to the Bihar Planters' Association, and useful advice given by Babu Hari Ballabh Bose, Government Pleader in Cuttack.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

W. C. MACPHERSON,

*Director of the Department of Land Records and
Agriculture, Bengal.*

APPENDICES.

DIVISION.	District.	Name of estate or tract under settlement.	Estimated area in square miles under settlement of revenue or rents.	Total number of villages.	AREA CADASTRAALLY SURVEYED IN SQUARE MILES—			NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN PREPARED FOR ATTESTATION—		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH ATTESTATION HAS BEEN COMPLETED—	
					Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Total area surveyed.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

Temporarily-settled tracts

<i>Major settlements.</i>											
Orissa	Cuttack	The temporarily-settled estates.	2,273'38	4,923	2,273'38	.....	2,273'38	4,923	...	4,904	2
	Balasore	Ditto	1,733'11	3,638	1,733'11	.....	1,733'11	3,638	...	3,622	10
	Puri	Ditto	1,089'04	2,109	1,089'04	.....	1,089'04	2,109	...	2,097	...
	Do.	Khurda Government estate.	913'00	1,377	913'00	.....	913'00	1,377	...	48	1,253
Chittagong...	Chittagong	Chittagong district	1,923'00	1,037	1,923'00	.....	1,923'00	1,037	...	1,037	...
Chota Nagpur.	Palamau	Government estates	294'00	399	294'00	.....	294'00	399	...	399	...
Rajshahi	Darjeeling	Darjeeling Terai jotes and 30-year lease grants.	230'15	935	230'15	.....	230'15	935	...	932	...
<i>Minor settlements.</i>											
Burdwan	Midnapore	Pataspur temporarily-settled estates.	54'70	96	54'70	.....	54'70	96	...	96	...
Rajshahi	Bogra	Jaipur Government estates.	55'50	156	55'50	.....	55'50	156	...	121	(a)126
Dacca	Backergunge	Government estates	61'93	31	57'31	4'62	61'93	30	1	30	1
Patna	Gaya	Ditto	102'00	118	102'00	.....	102'00	16	102	109	9
	Shahabad	Fifteen in number	18'32	20	18'32	.....	18'32	20	...	20	...
Chittagong...	Noakhali	Eleven estates in the islands of Sandip and Hatiya.	97'00	11	.....	97'00	97'00	5	6	...	...
Chota Nagpur.	Singhbhum	The Kolhan	1,403'70	911	1,121'90	281'80	1,403'70	738	173	738	173
Total			10,248'83	15,761	9,865'41	383'42	10,248'83	15,479	282	14,153	1,574

Surveys and Records of Rights not undertaken

	North Bihar.		Major operations.									
Patna	...	Muzaffarpur	Muzaffarpur district	3,063'00	4,510	3,063'00	.....	3,063'00	4,053	...	4,053	462
		Champanan	Champanan district	3,280'00	2,855	3,280'00	.....	3,280'00	2,855	...	1,764	491
		Saran	Saran district	2,622'00	4,296	1,196'00	211'60	1,407'60	2,443	330	1,298	934
		Darbhanga	Darbhanga district	3,335'00	3,440	16'23	585'17	601'40	14	...	...	...
Chittagong...	Tippera	Chakla Roshnabad	556'85	1,507	556'85	.....	556'85	1,507	...	871	600	
Minor operations.												
Presiden	{	24 Parganas	Chaurasi	33'00	43	33'00	.....	33'00	43	...	43	...
		Khulna	Tantibuniya	19'95	8	19'95	.....	19'95	8	...	8	...
Dacca	...	Backergunge	Chiknikandi	27'24	17	9'71	.....	9'71	9	3	7	2
			Taluk Krishna Ram Sen	14'76	11	.....	14'76	14'76	...	11	...	...
Chittagong...	Tippera	...	Taterkati estates	1'51	4	.....	1'51	1'51	...	4	...	...
			Gangamandal	2'69	4	2'69	.....	2'69	4	...	3	1
Total				12,956'00	16,695	8,177'43	813'04	8,990'47	10,936	348	7,957	2,490

Wards

Patna	Gaya and Patna	Tikari and Balkhara	481'91	640	481'91	Nil	481'91	640	None	547	93
Bhagalpur	Monghyr	Narhan estate	48'19	60	48'19	.....	48'19	60	...	...	60
		Total	530'10	700	530'10	.....	530'10	700	...	547	153
		GRAND TOTAL	23,734'93	33,156	18,572'94	1,196'46	19,769'40	27,115	630	22,637	4,217

N.B.—The figures in this statement which do not agree

DIX I.

NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH THE DRAFT RECORD-OF-RIGHTS HAS BEEN PUBLISHED UNDER SECTION 105 (1) OF THE TENANCY ACT—		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH THE FINAL RECORD-OF-RIGHTS HAS BEEN PUBLISHED UNDER SECTION 105 (2) OF THE TENANCY ACT—		Estimated number of tenants in the villages in column 5.	Number of tenants whose rent has been recorded and status determined in tabulations finally published under section 105 (2) of the Tenancy Act or under the law which governs the settlement.	NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED—					COST DURING THE YEAR.			REMARKS.
Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.			Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Total.	Former rental of tenants included in column 21.	New rental of tenants included in column 21.	Survey, exclusive of professional survey.	Settlement.	Total.	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27

and Government estates.

									Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
303	1,959	...	1,263	850,000	260,464	59,109	364,563	423,782	8,64,369	9,96,472	...	...	...	
707	1,618	...	1,076	475,000	164,132	97,912	261,129	359,641	5,94,130	6,87,231	...	6,28,190	6,28,190	
100	1,735	...	1,106	275,000	121,764	20,077	232,338	252,415	4,93,844	5,64,783	...	...	...	
...	1,801	...	681	225,000	81,743	...	190,412	190,412	2,86,812	3,52,708	...	...	...	
610	849	507	260	577,947	5,77,947	1,77,776	67,696	245,452	4,38,214	6,32,775	...	1,64,418	1,64,418	
...	...	...	...	13,244	...	11,696	...	11,696	57,694	74,433	...	7,650	7,650	
...	838	...	...	11,233	...	...	824	824	...	...	...	6,535	6,535	
95	1	...	88	15,062	11,701	10,124	4,938	15,062	51,242	63,419	...	11,302	11,302	
...	155	...	119	8,786	6,560	...	5,986	5,986	59,238	51,051	...	10,922	10,922	
...	27	...	6	8,703	...	1,433	4,799	6,232	...	...	...	17,001	17,001	
50	68	7	102	9,214	9,214	2,853	...	3,280	52,040	56,763	...	...	...	
...	20	...	19	958	...	...	958	958	19,784	22,926	...	656	856	
...	...	...	...	(b) 6,636	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,238	10,238	
738	173	738	173	79,731	79,731	71,210	8,621	79,731	64,829	1,77,300	...	45,312	45,312	
2,603	8,244	1,252	4,893	2,556,514	1,313,256	452,290	1,142,531	1,594,871	29,52,191	36,81,911	...	8,02,224	8,02,224	

(a) Includes 91 villages for which records were re-attested.
(b) In five of the estates only. Not reported for the remaining estates.

in connection with a settlement of the land revenue.

3,813	550	1,887	1,729	1,036,000	595,879	9,494	6,987	16,481	1,33,932	1,45,759	...	1,19,174	1,19,174	
1,254	718	678	891	450,000	252,187	69,634	24,970	94,004	8,48,283	9,25,076	...	87,360	87,360	
1,200	615	68	998	609,900	80,420	41,938	7,168	49,106	5,47,336	6,11,651	...	88,135	88,135	
...	...	...	...	700,350	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
230	322	97	88	236,000	5,036	2,016	3,574	5,590	64,592	83,402	...	63,006	63,006	
18	25	...	43	14,377	14,377	14,281	96	14,377	21,876	28,505	...	4,242	4,242	
8	4	8	5	1,210	1,210	156	5	156	10,232	12,967	...	1,354	1,354	
3	6	...	1	2,250	...	...	1,455	1,455	...	...	...	2,724	2,724	
...	...	...	...	5,010	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,774	...	2,774	
...	...	...	...	566	...	...	...	...	...	...	369	...	359	
2	1	...	3	849	352	118	44	162	1,133	1,387	...	635	635	
6,528	2,237	2,738	3,753	3,047,492	949,461	137,637	44,294	181,931	16,27,384	18,08,907	3,133	3,67,180	3,70,313	

Estates.

547	93	471	145	44,612	44,612	180	12	192	4,990	5,991	...	(c) 17,758	17,758	(c) Includes expenditure in Government estates in Gaya.
...	28	...	...	11,097	None	None	50	50	1,263	1,378	...	3,169	3,169	
547	121	471	145	55,700	44,612	180	62	242	6,253	7,369	...	20,927	20,927	
9,678	10,802	4,461	8,791	5,659,715	2,307,329	590,107	1,186,837	1,777,044	45,85,828	54,98,187	3,133	11,90,331	11,93,464	

with those given in last year's report are revised figures.

APPENDIX II.

No. 2322, dated Cuttack, the 25th October 1897.

From—S. L. MADDOX, Esq., C.S., Settlement Officer, Orissa Division,

To—The Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.

WITH reference to your circular No. 45S., dated 1st September 1897, I have the honour to submit the following report on the progress of the settlement operations in the Province of Orissa during the year 1896-97.

2. *Notifications—*

- (1) By No. 5448 L. R. of 22nd December 1896 and by No. 83 T. R. of 30th April 1897, the Covenanted Assistant Settlement Officers and experienced Deputy Collectors were vested with powers for resumption purposes under Regulations II of 1819 and IX of 1825 as modified by III of 1828.
- (2) By No. 308 L. R. of 23rd January 1897 Assistant Settlement Officers (with the exception of the new comers) were gazetted with powers to take down evidence in English under section 185 (a), Civil Procedure Code.
- (3) By No. 774 T. R. of 24th September 1897, the whole staff in Orissa (with the exception of the kanungos) were vested with powers under Regulations XII of 1805, VII of 1822, IX and XI of 1825, and IX of 1833.
- (4) By No. 971 T. R. of 17th October 1896 sections 7, 40, 52, and 192, Bengal Tenancy Act, were extended to Orissa; section 7 which guides the enhancement of the rents of tenure-holders and section 52 on the subject of alteration of rent for alteration of area were already being followed.

Section 40 for commutation of produce rents has been used very sparingly, the attention of Assistant Settlement Officers having been drawn to sub-paragraph (6), where the procedure is set forth in case of opposition to the application. The extension of section 192 has been considered to have curtailed our jurisdiction under the general provisions of section 104 (2), but the more experienced Assistant Settlement Officers have taken some pains to explain to zamindars the advantages of applying for a settlement of fair rents in the cases of the privileged tenancies which they may have created. Thus valuations for revenue only are steadily decreasing.

3. *Area under Survey and Settlement.*—The area within which settlement operations are being conducted is the same as last year:—

NAME OF DISTRICT.			Temporarily settled.	Permanently settled.	Total.	REMARKS.
1			2	3	4	5
			Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	(a) Ekrajat.
Cuttack	...	...	2,099	174	2,273	
Puri	...	...	985	104 (a)	1,089	
Balasore	...	...	1,733	.....	1,733	
Khurda	...	...	913	.....	913	
			5,730	278	6,008	

N.B.—This area includes revenue-free estates scattered among the temporarily-settled lands, but excludes permanently settled estates surveyed on the 2" scale.

The work in the permanently-settled areas has been postponed as far as possible in order to push on settlement of rents in the temporarily-settled estates. Settlement of rents in the Madhupur ward's estate (permanently settled) will be conducted during the coming field season. The work, chiefly draft publication, in Darpan and Derabisi will be pushed on this year (1897-98). The records of Chedra are now being finally published.

4. *Staff.*—The Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture was placed on special duty for two months, July and August. During this visit and under his instructions the rules for assessment and for completion work were thoroughly revised. Notices were issued under Regulation VII of 1822 to zamindars. The form of kabuliyat was revised, the proper record of incidents of proprietary tenure-holders was discussed, and a form of kabuliyat drawn up. It was decided to recommend to Government that rents of proprietary tenure-holders should not be fixed judicially. Programmes and estimates for the future were drawn up. Conferences were held with the Commissioner in regard to assessment and with the Superintending Engineer in regard to irrigation statistics, the record of embankments, and the value of embankments, etc. to revenue. The Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture also modified the copying rules, directed the entry of cesses in khatians, and inspected the Cuttack and Khurda offices and some Assistant Settlement Officers' camps in Khurda.

4. *Staff*.—I was in charge of the three districts with Khurda throughout the year. The immediate charge of the work in each district was placed in the hands of four Covenanted Assistant Settlement Officers and Mr. J. Taylor, Deputy Collector, as follows:—

October—January ...	Balasore, Mr. Thomson,	12 fair-rent camps of Assistant Settlement Officers.
February—April ...	„ Mr. Kingsford,	12 „ „
May ...	„ „	10 „ „
June—September ...	„ „	4 officers were engaged on completion reports, 3 on fair-rent work.
October ...	Cuttack, Mr. Webster,	15 fair-rent camps of Assistant Settlement Officers.
November—January	{ Mr. Webster,	9 „ „
	{ „ Kingsford,	8 „ „
January—February	{ „ Webster,	9 „ „
	{ „ Carey,	8 „ „
March—May ...	{ „ Webster,	8 „ „
	{ „ Carey,	7 „ „
June—September ...	{ „ Webster,	8 Assistant Settlement Officers were employed chiefly on completion reports and 3 Assistant Settlement Officers on fair-rent work.
	{ „ Carey,	
October ...	Puri, Mr. Kingsford,	11 fair-rent camps of Assistant Settlement Officers.
November—April ...	„ H. McPherson,	„ „
May ...	„ „	„ „
June—September ...	„ „	3 Assistant Settlement Officers were employed on completion reports.
November—April ...	Khurda, Mr. J. Taylor,	3 fair-rent camps.
May ...	„ „	9 „ „
June—September ...	„ „	12 „ „

Separate offices for Assistant Settlement Officers in charge with record-rooms were constituted at Pipli (Puri) and at Khurda. The Assistant Settlement Officer in charge of Balasore took on the office occupied by the Settlement Officer when that district was a separate charge. In Cuttack the two Assistant Settlement Officers in charge had separate establishments for their own work.

Under Government orders (No. 648 L. R. of 16th February 1897), Assistant Settlement Officers in charge were permitted to countersign the establishment bills of the Assistant Settlement Officers working under them and the travelling allowance bills of these establishments. By this means the Settlement Officer had more time to devote to inspection work. Owing to the unfortunate breakdown in health of Mr. Thomson changes in the charge of the districts had to be made. Mr. Carey took his place on the staff, and took charge of Mr. Kingsford's circles in Cuttack, while Mr. Kingsford was placed in charge of Balasore.

The Assistant Settlement Officers in charge devoted themselves to inspection work throughout the field season and recess. In recess they were also employed in supervision of the copying establishments in their own districts. In Cuttack Mr. Webster had charge of the Kendrapara copying establishment and Mr. Carey of Jajpur, and both supervised the copying work at head-quarters. Mr. J. Taylor had an attestation and fair-rent camp till the end of April. After this month till the end of the year he had to supervise and inspect the attestation and fair-rent camps of the 12 Assistant Settlement Officers working under him. The Covenanted Assistant Settlement Officers in each district have sent up several completion reports for blocks and estates, and have directed and helped their Assistant Settlement Officers to submit other completion reports.

The disposition of the other Assistant Settlement Officers and the work which they have done are to be found in the annexed returns.

5. *Survey and Khanapuri*.—The record-writing in Khurda was completed in the end of the field season of 1896, and no survey work has been conducted this year. There remain for survey only a few small scattered portions of villages situated within the permanently-settled parganas on the north of Balasore. No return is submitted.

6. *Attestation*.—The return has undergone some revision, and does not quite agree with the return submitted last year. Explanations have been included in the column of remarks. In Cuttack the number of plots was overstated in the last year's return. In Balasore attestation had actually not been completed.

The outturn of original attestation is shown in columns 9 to 11. Nearly 8 lakhs of plots were attested. Of this number, nearly 7½ lakhs of plots were attested in Khurda. In addition to this, some 10 lakhs in Puri and in Cuttack nearly 8 lakhs were reattested. Both original attestation and reattestation was followed closely by settlement of fair rents.

I give the various steps in the procedure—

1. Issue of Rule 11(a) notice giving a fortnight's warning.
2. Issue of second notice for preliminary attestation.

3. Preliminary attestation, decision of *badars*, correction of records and map, preparation of *taufir* (excess lakhraj) statements, re-arrangement of khatians and *misil*.
4. Preparation of schedule, columns 1—6, and abstract *terij* (first portion “before assessment”), *terij* for lakhrajdars, tehsilahabida statement, verification of the areas and correction of milan khasra.
5. Preparation of village rate, excess area statements, tenure-holder’s form, filling in column 7 of the schedule.
6. Final attestation and announcement of new rents. Notice issued in the village, giving date of proposal of rents and of hearing objections. Issue of 23 *a* and 19 notices.
7. Proposal of rents and issue of notice on absentees.
8. Completion of proposal of rents to absentees, etc.
9. Writing of judgment.
10. Preparation of abstract *terij* (second portion “after assessment”), re-arrangement of khatians, and entry in register leading up to monthly return No. II.

The advantage of combining the procedure is that after the raiyat has had his boundaries, areas, status and rent fully explained to him and the details are fresh in his mind, he is told what his new rent will be. He then goes away for at least a week, and comes back at the time of proposal with any objections he may have to make. In all parts the procedure was very popular. In Khurda, where we had to divide out the raiyat’s areas and rents under different classes, to be treated for settlement of rents in different ways the procedure was specially popular. The economy of time and of cost is specially noticeable in Khurda. Attestation and fair rent work of the estate occupied 76 months (4 officers for 7 months, 12 officers for 4 months). In this time attestation of 740,000 plots and settlement of rents for nearly 2 lakhs tenants was completed. Very great care was taken to allow sufficient time for the elapse of the periods prescribed by the different rules under which attestation and fair-rent work are to be conducted. Specimen order-sheets giving dates and precise instructions were issued to all Assistant Settlement Officers. No cases of hardship or undue haste were reported to me.

7. *Assessment*.—The rules under which assessment was carried on up to January are contained in the instructions revised by the Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, printed with the date of 10th July 1897 and amended by Board’s No. 451(A) of 7th October 1897. In the beginning of January the Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture came to Orissa and visited several fair-rent camps. In the end of January His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor and the Senior Member of the Board came to Orissa. His Honour held a conference with the local officers, in which the following subjects were discussed:—

- I.—The rules for the settlement of rents in Orissa.
- II.—The period of settlement.
- III.—Percentage of the assets to be taken by Government as revenue.
- IV.—The maintenance of the settlement records in Orissa.
- V.—Owner’s rate.

These important subjects are dealt with in Government of Bengal, No 238T.R. of 12th May 1897 to the Government of India.

In the rules marked x, which form an enclosure to the Government letter, several important changes have been made. In the first place, the rules have been re-arranged. Rules which contain principles and procedure have been brought together in the first part, while the second part contains instructions for office work, arrangement of records, &c.

The following important changes have been made:—

(1) OLD RULE.

“*Paragraph 7(b).*—*Thani rate*.—This rate is obtained by the following process:—

“Total the former settlement areas and rents of the *thani* holdings now surviving in the village; divide the total rent by the total area: the quotient will be the *thani* rate.

“In villages where there is little *thani* surviving, the former settlement *bhians* may be referred to, and a *thani* rate deduced from the areas and rents recorded therein.”

NEW RULE.

“*Rule 3.*—*Thani rate*.—This rate is obtained by the following process:—

“Take into consideration those *thani* holdings which now survive in the village; ascertain the areas and rents of these holdings as they stood at the former settlement; divide the total rent by the total area: the quotient will be, for the purpose of this rule, the *thani* rate.

“In villages where there is little *thani* surviving, the former settlement *bhians* may be referred to, and a *thani* rate deduced from the areas and rents recorded therein.”

The amendment of the rule makes the meaning more clear.

(2) OLD RULE.

"Paragraph 8.—*Enhancement of the rent of pahi tenants.*—(a) *Settled, occupancy, and non-occupancy raiyats.*—The existing rents of the raiyats of the above three classes are, it is to be presumed, fair and equitable. They will not be enhanced except on the ground of excess area, or unless the zamindars or tenants should make a formal application for a settlement of fair rents. In this latter case the application must be heard and disposed of in accordance with the law."

NEW RULE.

"Rule 6.—*Enhancement of the rent of pahi tenants, whether settled occupancy or non-occupancy raiyats.*—The existing rents of the raiyats of the above three classes are, it is to be presumed, fair and equitable. They will not therefore generally be enhanced by the Assistant Settlement Officer of his own motion, except on the ground of excess area. When, however, after taking into account the increase of rent resultant from application of rule 12 to excess area, the rent of a tenancy of one of those classes still remains substantially lower (say 33½ per cent. lower) than the village rate would give, the Assistant Settlement Officer may consider whether sufficient reason exists in inferiority of soil or otherwise (see, e.g., sections 30(a) and 31(c) of Bengal Tenancy Act) for the lower rent; and unless sufficient reason exists for the difference, or unless, in his opinion, the existing rents be fair, shall propose enhanced rents. He will do this because the presumption that the existing rent is fair and equitable appears *prima facie* to be contrary to the facts. In any case in which the landlord or tenant may formally apply, or in which the rents proposed may not be accepted, the rent must be settled in accordance with the law."

The new rule provides for enquiry into and enhancement of unduly low rentals.

(3) OLD RULE.

"Paragraph 11.—*Enhancement of (a) thani.*—Ascertain by what percentage the village rate exceeds the *thani* rate. The rents of *thani* raiyats may be enhanced by half that percentage, provided the percentage be more than 12½ per cent., i.e., when the village rate does not exceed the *thani* rate by more than 12½ per cent., no *thani* rents in the village shall be enhanced, except on the formal application of the zamindar.

Excess area will be treated according to the ordinary rules (*vide* paragraph 12), unless the zamindar applies for a reduction of the allowance for difference of measurement. The whole area will be considered as *thani*."

NEW RULE.

"Rule 7. *Enhancement of thani rents.*—The rule for ascertaining the '*thani* rate' is rule 3.

"A. *Thani* rents, unmixed,—(1) When the '*thani* rate' exceeds the '*village rate*' for *pahi* tenants, or is equal to it, or falls short of it by not more than 12½ per cent., there shall be no general enhancement of *thani* rents without special reasons to be recorded.

"(2) The rate of any general enhancement shall not exceed 12½ per cent. of the '*thani* rate.'

"(3) In cases in which the '*thani* rates' falls short of the '*village rate*' by 12½ per cent. or more, the Assistant Settlement Officer shall consider whether grounds exist for general enhancement of *thani* rents, but he should ordinarily not propose any general enhancement beyond half the percentage of difference between the '*thani* rate' and the village rate.

"(4) It will be understood that under no circumstances will individual rents be enhanced which are already fair and equitable.

"(5) If no general enhancement of *thani* rents appear to be justified, the rent of a particular *thani* holding may nevertheless be enhanced when it is substantially lower (say by 33½ per cent.) than the *thani* rate would give. In this latter case the Assistant Settlement Officer may consider whether sufficient reason exists in inferiority of soil or otherwise (see, e.g., sections 30(a) and 31(c) of the Bengal Tenancy Act) for the lower rent; and unless sufficient reason exists for the difference, or unless, in his opinion, the existing rents be fair, shall propose enhanced rents.

"(6) It is unnecessary to increase a *thani* rent on the ground of excess area when the enhanced rent obtained under the above instructions appears to be fair and equitable.

"(7) The above instructions have reference only to enhanced rents to be proposed by the Assistant Settlement Officer of his own motion. If the landlord of a *thani* tenant should apply for settlement of rent, the application will be disposed of according to law."

The new rule provides for general enhancement where *thani* rents are unduly low, and for enquiry into and enhancement of particular cases of unduly low rents.

(4) OLD RULE.

"Paragraph 10.—*Under-raiyats.*—It is generally not necessary to alter the rent of an under-raiyat. Where he is recorded as having rights of occupancy, or where his landlord applies for the settlement of a fair rent, his rent may be enhanced up to 25 per cent. in excess of the rental assessed on the raiyat landlord."

NEW RULE.

“Rule 22.—*Under-raiyats*.—The Revenue Officer conducting a settlement of land revenue under section 101 (2) (d), is bound to settle fair and equitable rents for under-raiyats, but the provisions of section 113 of the Tenancy Act do not apply to the rents of under-raiyats. It does not follow that the existing rents of under-raiyats must be altered. On the contrary, it will probably be seldom found necessary to alter them. When such rents are altered, the Revenue Officer will be guided by the principles laid down in the Act for the enhancement and reduction of the rents of occupancy raiyats, according as the under-raiyats have or have not occupancy rights. But the rents of under-raiyats as settled will be subject to the limits prescribed by section 48 of the Act.”

It was not clear in the old rule that a rent must be settled for under-raiyats. Section 101 (2) (d) directs us to settle rents for all tenants, including under-raiyats.

(5) OLD RULE.

“Paragraph 19 (c).—*Orchards*.—Lands on which fruit trees are grown, and which either bear a produce rent, or for which no rent is paid, may be assessed to revenue as follows:—

“A sum equal to the product of the area and the lowest *pahi* rate in the zamindar’s *bhian*, or any rate which the Assistant Settlement Officer may consider fair and equitable, should be included in the *sairat* statement of the village under head *phalkar*. Where rent is taken for orchards as part of a tenant’s holding, the ordinary rules will apply.”

NEW RULE.

“Rule 17.—*Orchards*.—Where rent is taken from orchards as part of a tenant’s holding, the ordinary rules will apply.

“Where an orchard is included in a tenant’s holding without payment of rent, it should be assessed at the lowest *pahi* rate in the zamindar’s *bhian*, or at any rate which the Assistant Settlement Officer may consider fair and equitable.

“When the right to collect fruit, tap trees, &c., is leased without lease of the land on which the trees stand, the asset should be treated as *sairat* (*phalkar*). The Assistant Settlement Officer will in this latter case make a fair valuation of the asset, allowing for the vicissitudes of season.”

(6) OLD RULE.

“(a) *Special crops*.—The existing rents of lands growing special crops and the area and rent of the balance of the holding shall first be separately calculated and recorded in the khatian and schedule. The raiyat shall be assessed as follows:—

“The existing rent of the lands that do not grow the special crops, added to the product of the area growing the special crop and the village rate, shall be recorded as the normal rent settled, and to this shall be added separately the balance of the existing rent, as being an assessment for the special crop. A note shall be made in column 10(d) of the khatian of the extra assessment for the special crop, and the khasra numbers in which it is grown. A note shall also be made in the column of remarks of the schedule, showing the amount which is to be added to the *sairat* statement under head ‘special crops.’

“The following instance is given in order to make the rule clear:—

NAME OF RAIYAT.	TOTAL.		UNDER SPECIAL CROP.		BALANCE OF HOLDING.		REMARKS.
	Area.	Rent.	Area.	Rent.	Area.	Rent	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Ram Das ...	Acres. 10	Rs. 30	Acres. 1	Rs. 12	Acres. 9	Rs. 18	Village rate = Rs. 2.

“The entry of columns 2, 5, 6, 8 and 10 of the schedule should be—

2	5	6	8	10 REMARKS.
Ram Das ...	10 acres, including 1 acre under special crop.	Rs. 30, including rent of area by growing special crop, Rs. 12.	Rs. Normal rent ... 18 + 2 Add for special crop ... 10 Total rent ... 30	Plots Nos. , pay the additional rent of Rs. 10 only so long as the special crop, viz., is grown.

"In column 10(*d*) of Ram Das' khatian the following entry would be made:—Plots Nos. pay the additional rent of Rs. 10 only so long as the special crop, viz., , is grown."

"In preparing the *sairat* statement Rs. 10 will be included under a head "Additional assessment of special crops." The Assistant Settlement Officer will note separately in the proceeding attached to the *sairat* statement any special circumstances justifying a remission of the amount under this head, *e.g.*, uncertainty as to the area of *pal* lands. It is hoped that a reasonable concession may compensate the zamindar for not being able every year to realize this amount in full."

NEW RULE.

"Rule 18.—*Lands on which crops other than staple crops are grown.*—(1) When lands are used for growing sugarcane, tobacco, *pan*, or any crops other than the staple crops, the existing rents shall be recorded in the khatian, unless the Assistant Settlement Officer finds that any part of the rent paid should be excluded as an *abwab*.

"(2) No *abwab* must be recorded as part of the existing rent. (See page 75, VI and XI of the Survey and Settlement Manual.)

"(3) If the rent be liable to re-adjustment when the land ceases to grow a crop other than a staple crop, or during currency of lease (*e.g.*, as often in the case of *pan* gardens) a note to this effect shall be made in the khatian.

"(4) When the existing rent recorded for such lands is higher than it would be if calculated at the rate paid for the best lands under staple crop in the village, the land will be valued for revenue assessment at the rate paid by the best lands under staple crop, unless the high rent is clearly due to special fertility of the soil not brought about by capital expended by landlord or tenant.

"(5) Care must be taken not to assess revenue on improvements effected by landlord or tenant.

(6) But in assessing *pan* lands regard may be had—

- (a) To the fact, if found, that other land besides the area covered by the *pan* garden is used, and suffers deterioration by reason of the *pan* cultivation.
- (b) To the fact, if found, that the area covered by the *pan* garden itself suffers deterioration and required after a period to be left waste.
- (c) To any variation in the rent which may be found to be customary, or to be in force in particular villages during the term of life of the *pan* garden."

The old rule is contrary to Government orders as tending "to discourage industry and to check cultivation."

The new rule only takes into consideration for assessment of revenue special fertility of the soil. The question of what record of rent should be made in the khatian is still under discussion.

The important crops of this nature are as follows (the figures are not quite accurate):—

		Area.	Rent.	
			Rs.	
Pan	...	313	4,663	} See statement XV.
Sugarcane	...	500	1,724	
Tobacco	...	1,171	7,280	
Total	...	1,984	3,667	

(7) OLD RULE.

"Paragraph 18.—*Nijjote and Nijchas.*—The valuation for nijjote and nijchas shall be the product of the total area and the village rate.

"The zamindar or his gomastha, if present, shall be informed of the valuation made, and any reasonable objection may be considered, but it is to be borne in mind that rents are not being proposed in this case under the Tenancy Act.

"The lands of absconding tenants or of tenants who have died without heirs may now be recorded in the nijchas khatian; but rajibadars, *i.e.*, petitions of raiyats purporting to give up lands as nijchas, should be refused at the fair-rent stage, and the zamindar should be informed that such petitions can only be given effect to in the records after draft publication on a petition under section 105 or on a decree under section 106. Zamindars may be informed of the valuation which has been made for their nijjote and nijchas, and may further be told that some concession on the lines of the North-Western Provinces Settlement Code will probably be granted in regard to these lands. The Assistant Settlement Officers should enter in the revenue-paying schedule the land held as nijjote and nijchas, and note in the column of remarks the amount to be added to the mahal assets. If he is of opinion that lands recorded as such are not true nijjote or nijchas, he should note carefully what area should be excluded from the concession. The North-Western Provinces Code expressly provides that the Settlement Officer shall exclude from the concession any area which he believes to have been recorded by collusion of raiyats and zamindars."

NEW RULE.

"Rule 14.—*Nijjote and Nijchas*.—The Assistant Settlement Officer will make the normal valuation for nijjote and nijchas at the village rate, and will note in the column of remarks of the schedule any recommendation of concession which he proposes to make.

"The zamindar or his gomastha, if present, shall be informed of the valuation made, and any reasonable objections will be considered; but it is to be borne in mind that rents are not being proposed in this case under the Tenancy Act.

"The lands of absconding tenant or of tenants who have died without heirs may be recorded at this stage in the nijchas khatian. Petitions presented at this stage by raiyats, in which it is stated that they have given up their lands to the landlords, should be filed with the records; but effect should not be given to them unless the Assistant Settlement Officer has clearly satisfied himself by local enquiry or otherwise that the holding has actually been abandoned by the raiyat, and has come into the nijchas of the landlord."

By a circular subsequently issued, under the instructions of the Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, even more elasticity in regard to the valuation of nijjote and nijchas is prescribed. *Actual* instead of *average* valuations are to be made so far as possible. Under-valuation is discouraged. Refusal of petitions is, however, prohibited.

Another important change made in the procedure is that even when an existing rent is to be retained, it must be formally proposed to the tenant. The record of evidence in the case of alterations of rent *ex parte* after due service of special notice has also been introduced. The rules under discussion still are—rule for assessing to rent beneficiary tenancies granted by the zamindar with or without application (section 104 (2) and section 192, Bengal Tenancy Act), the allowance for difference of measurement in cases of excess lakhraj, and the rule for settling rents for crops other than staple crops. The question of the extension to Orissa of other sections of the Tenancy Act is also under discussion.

The effect of the new rule for enquiry into and enhancement of unduly low rentals during the field season is worthy of note. The following statement of percentages shows a steady improvement, only varied by local peculiarities:—

	February.			March.			April.			May.			June.			July.		
	Cuttack.	Puri.	Balasore.	Cuttack.	Puri.	Balasore.	Cuttack.	Puri.	Balasore.	Cuttack.	Puri.	Balasore.	Cuttack.	Puri.	Balasore.	Cuttack.	Puri.	Balasore.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Total monthly enhancement per cent.	12½	11½	18	11	16	14	11	18	14	11	21	15	11½	16	13	13½	15	15
Percentage of rents retained.	58	65	56	57	62	58	56	50	56	53	53	50½	52	51	46½	54	53	52½

N.B.—The figures of enhancement for February are higher because *sairat* is included in settled, but not in *existing* assets in April and May in Puri collusive rents in Lembai and Chaubiskud specially swelled the general enhancement. From the Cuttack figures of general enhancement for June and July killa Chausatpara is excluded.

8. *General Summary of Progress*.—The settlement of fair-rent work began experimentally in Balasore in November 1895, and was carried on throughout 1895-96 in that district.

In Cuttack the work began in April 1896 and in Puri about the same time.

The progress for the two years is as follows:—

NAME OF DISTRICT.	Number of tenants.		Existing assets.		Settled assets.		Enhancement.	
	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cuttack ...	59,199	364,553	1,50,719	8,54,369	1,69,599	9,96,472	13	16
Balasore ...	97,912	261,129	1,72,840	5,94,130	2,24,204	6,87,287	30	16
Puri ...	20,077	232,338	37,889	4,93,844	45,626	5,64,783	24	14
Khurda ...	Nil	190,412	...	2,86,812	Nil	3,52,708	...	23
Total ...	177,188	1,048,462	3,61,448	22,29,155	4,39,429	26,01,130	21	17

The explanation of the apparent fall of the enhancement in Puri and Balasore has been given in the sketch of progress in each district. It is chiefly due to valuation of *nijchas* not having been included in existing as well as in settled assets; partly also in Balasore to the special features of killa Ambahata. As a matter of fact, the Puri return was revised after submission of the last annual return, and the correct general percentage of enhancement was found to be 8·6.

The following figures are interesting as showing the manner in which rents have been dealt with:—

Percentages showing the manner in which rents have been settled.

NAME OF DISTRICT.	For excess area.	For less area.	Newly-assessed tenancies.	Altered on other grounds.	Retained.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Cuttack ...	11.19	2.78	6.32	21.87	57.84
Balasore ...	15.36	3.77	4.71	21.43	54.73
Puri ...	8.53	1.75	6.23	23.96	59.53
Khurda ...	1.67	0.46	5.93	64.2	27.72

From these figures I would ask you to consider the following points—

(1) Where there has been no reattestation (in Balasore) we have had more adjustment of area. In Cuttack there has been more adjustment than in Puri, as in the latter district reattestation of the whole work has been made. The reason which I assign is that at reattestation the zamindars nearly always take our survey areas for their revised *ekpadiyas* (rent-rolls).

I do not of course include Khurda in these remarks. Here 126,000 tenants out of 190,412 have had their rents enhanced three annas in the rupee.

As regards retention of rents, the percentages have dropped very perceptibly since the enquiries which the Director of Land Records and Agriculture made in January and the new rules which he introduced.

Please see para. 7.

Last year the percentage of rents retained was 52, but it will be remembered that at the beginning of the experimental work all *pahi* tenants' rents were raised if found to be below the so-called *village rate*.

In the early months of the year 60 to 65 per cent. of rents were being retained. The percentage has dropped to between 50 and 55 since March.

Attendance has generally been excellent. I have compiled the following statement showing the number of tenants whose rents have been altered *ex parte*. The statement is not quite complete for the whole Province:—

DISTRICT.	Villages.	Tenants.	Rents altered <i>ex parte</i> .	Percentage.
1	2	3	4	5
Cuttack ...	1,776	284,397	4,204	1.4
Balasore ...	2,230	335,551	2,136	.63
Puri ...	1,710	232,236	680	.3
Khurda ...	1,305	190,412	216	...
Total ...	7,021	1,042,596	7,236	...

The number of objections to rents in consequence of which proceedings have been held under the Civil Procedure Code is returned as follows:—

NAME OF DISTRICT.	Total number of tenants dealt with.	Number of objections for which a record under the Civil Procedure Code has been made.	Percentage of objections.
1	2	3	4
Cuttack ...	364,583	1,171	.32
Balasore ...	261,129	554	.21
Puri ...	232,338	90	.00033
Khurda ...	190,412	5	.000025
Total ...	1,048,462	1,820	...

It is obvious from these figures that we must to some extent admit the truth of the charge of evading the provisions of the Civil Procedure Code. The mere pliancy of the Uriya is insufficient to explain the small number of objections. I would, however, most respectfully put in a plea on behalf of the large majority of the Assistant Settlement Officers, i.e., that rather than have an objection they proceed to the spot, and after local enquiry the objection is generally removed. I do believe that most Assistant Settlement Officers have faithfully and conscientiously endeavoured to meet objections in this way, and that by local inquiry 75 per cent. of cases have been kept out of trial by the Civil Procedure Code.

Again, in defence of the small number of objections, I would ask you to consider the statement of appeals (VIII). In order that this statement should be strictly accurate, I have compiled it (by the courtesy of the sarishtadar, in the absence of the Special Judge on leave) from the registers kept in the Judge's Court. Last year there were no appeals against settled rents, so that for more than 12 lakhs of tenants, whose rents have been settled, the record of appeals runs thus:—

No. of appeals.	UNDER SECTION 104.				UNDER SECTION 105.				UNDER SECTION 106.				REMARKS.
	Confirmed.	Dismissed.	Pending.	Total.	Modified.	Remanded.	Pending.	Total.	Dismissed.	Modified.	Pending.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	2	1	6	9	1	3	39	42	1	1	18	20	

It is noticeable from Statement VIII that the appeals are now being filed more plentifully, i.e., in the last six months. The reason is that the parties are beginning to realize that our proceedings are about to acquire finality. Nevertheless, considering the large number of tenants concerned and the fact that out of 36,346 cases under section 105, 34,310 have been disposed of by Assistant Settlement Officers, and that out of 2,694 cases under section 106, 1,356 have been decided, the number of appeals is very small indeed.

Copying and draft publication.—I have dealt at length with the copying work (see paragraph 9). As regards draft publication, it appears (Statement VI) that in 7,723 villages records have been published out of 8,095 villages in which fair rents have been settled.

Final publication.—From the return (Statement VII) it will be seen that final publication has been made in 4,126 villages for nearly 24 lakhs of plots with 6½ lakhs tenants. Khatians of nearly 5 lakhs tenants have been distributed. The khatians of lakhrajdar and of their raiyats make up a very large proportion of the undistributed khatians. These are not to be distributed except on application and on payment of cost of certified copies. I understand that none have been applied for as yet.

I give a few special features of the work in each district—

(a) *Cuttack.*—The estimated number of tenants is 850,000 and of plots 4,200,000—an average of five plots per tenant.

Up to the end of the 30th September 1896 the attestation and assessment of 452 villages, with 59,199 tenants, had been completed, and the attestation of all but a very few villages was completed.

During the year the attestation of two villages containing about 10,000 plots has been done, which practically completes the work. Fair-rent settlement in 2,043 villages, with 364,583* tenants, has been completed. The rents of over 2 lakhs of tenants had to be reattested.

* *Vide* Statement IV.

There thus appear to remain about 4½ lakhs of tenants, whose rents are to be assessed, but the total number has probably been overestimated by ¼ to ½ lakh.

In the previous year five officers had been engaged on fair-rent work. Ten new officers started work in the end of October, one more in December, and one in January. Thus 17 officers worked from January to April inclusive, 15 officers during May, and since then only 3 officers were exclusively employed on the settlement of rents and 8 partly on fair-rent settlement and partly on completion work.

The average outturn of tenants per officer from November to May inclusive was 2,600 tenants per officer per month, but there were great variations at different times and between different officers.

Rents were increased for excess area in 11 per cent. cases, and reduced for less area in 2½ per cent., 6½ per cent. were newly assessed, nearly 22 per cent. were altered on other grounds, and nearly 58 per cent. were retained. Between April 1896 and December 1896 the rents of 10,500 out of 18,200 tenants, or 58 per cent., had been retained. Since the visit of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in January 1897, more attention has been paid to the raising of exceptionally low rents, with the result that in April the percentage of rents retained was reduced to 56 and from (and including) May 1897 only 53 per cent. of rents have been retained. This percentage has practically not varied since.

The sum of existing assets dealt with up to date amounts to Rs. 10,05,088, and of the corresponding settled assets Rs. 11,66,071. Of this, the amounts dealt with in the year under report are 'existing' Rs. 8,54,369 and 'settled' Rs. 9,96,472. Rather over half the tenants of the district have been assessed, so that we might expect a total increase of about 3 lakhs of rupees on the assets of the whole district.

Vide Statement V.

Add for 1895-96—	Rs.
Assets existing	1,50,719
„ settled	1,69,599

Existing assets, however, have been estimated at 17 lakhs by a summation of village records; and if this be correct, the proportionate increase of assets to be expected on the total would be Rs. 2,73,700, but against this we have to remember that a larger percentage of rents are being raised. On the whole, I think, we are perfectly safe in forecasting a total increase of assets amounting to 2½ lakhs rupees at least.

The percentages of enhancement on the more important classes of tenancy have been as follows :—

	1895-96.	1896-97.	
1	2	3	4
Kharida jamabandi ...	82	87	* Baziafti rents were already high in the Jajpur circle, which contributed a large proportion to the total.
Nisfi baziafti ...	172*	191	
Kamil " ...	52	51	
Thani ...	2	4	
Thani pahi, mixed ...	8	5	
Settled and occupancy ...	4	8	
Total of all classes ...	10	16	

There has been considerable variation from month to month in the percentage of enhancements of these chief classes of tenancy as shown in the following statement :—

	Novem-ber.	Decem-ber.	Jan-uary.	Feb-ruary.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Septem-ber.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Kharida jamabandi ...	104	50	99	95	74	60	95	78	102	50	47
Nisfi baziafti ...	232	202	184	163	160	166	154	188	197	159	86
Kamil ...	35	66	55	38	40	47	46	54	46	28	44
Thani ...	...	(-10)	8	14	6	3	3	(-1)	13	7	5
Thani pahi ...	...	8	7	1	5	6	6	3	(-1)	2	(-0.5)
Settled and occupancy ...	12	4	4	6	3	3	4	4	13	3	2

The variations have been most marked in the case of *thani* rents, which have in two months been reduced on the average; the number of *thani* rents settled in any month is small, and there must be considerable local variations in dealing with rents that have been retained since the last settlement. The same remarks apply to the *kharida* and *baziafti* tenants, whose holdings are usually minute and the existing rents often merely nominal. The incidence of rents varies greatly from pargana to pargana. Again, in certain cases rents have had to be largely reduced, *e.g.*, on account of the action of the Brahmini in pargana Olas.

The total value of rents settled in 1895-96 was one-sixth the value of those settled in the year under report, and I think it would be incorrect to conclude that *nisfi baziafti* tenants have been treated more hardly than before (see also my note in the margin of the above statement). The general tendency has been to treat them very leniently, and the increase in percentage of enhancement is due to the fact that the existing rents of this class dealt with last year averaged as much as 7 annas per acre, while those dealt with this year average only 6½ annas.

A very much larger proportion of increase has been obtained by raising exceptionally low rents of *thani* and *pahi* raiyats; and the incidence of the rents of privileged tenants is still very low in comparison. The incidence of rents of the chief classes of tenancy as now settled is as follows :—

	Average rent per acre.
1	2
	Rs. A. P.
Kharida jamabandi ..	1 5 10
Nisfi baziafti ...	1 2 7
Kamil " ...	1 5 4
Thani ..	2 12 2
Thani pahi, mixed ...	2 8 11
Settled and occupancy ...	3 0 7

* *Draft publication*.—Of 2,495 villages in which rents have been settled, the records of 2,262 have been draft published, leaving 233 pending; this is chiefly due to the transfer of several officers to Khurda.

Vide Statement VI.

Cases.—Of 14,980 cases under section 105, filed since the commencement of proceedings, 14,171 have been disposed of, leaving 809 pending, a comparatively small number. Only 495 cases in all have

Vide Statement VI.

been filed under section 106, and of these 122 are still pending.

Final publication.—Records have been finally published for 1,263 villages containing 7½ lakhs of plots and 260,464 tenants; 185,038 tenants have received khatians. The apparently large difference is due to the fact that khatians for holders of lakhraj bahal and of their tenants are not distributed except on application with cost of copying.

Vide Statement VII.

Assessment.—I have submitted to the Commissioner assessment papers of 173 estates with an existing revenue of Rs. 97,322, which I propose to

Vide Statement X.

Vide Statement XI.

raise to Rs. 1,45,203 + Rs. 2,958, Chaukidari Fund. He has confirmed the assessment of 125 estates, having a revenue of Rs. 57,569, to be now raised to Rs. 80,247 + Rs. 2,108-8-10, Chaukidari Fund. Excluding the Chaukidari Fund, the increase of Government revenue is 43 per cent.

(b) **Balasore.**—(1) Considerable progress has been made during the year owing to the larger number of officers employed. At the close of the year 1895-96 fair rents of 97,912 tenants had been settled in 804 villages out of a total of 3,638; 707 had been draft published, and khatians of 34,088 tenants had been copied. No final publication had been made.

(a) *Vide Statement IV.*

(b) *Vide Statement VI.*

(c) *Vide Statement VII.*

Up to the close of the year under report rents have been settled for (a) 359,041 tenants in 2,402 villages; draft publication has been done in (b) 2,325 villages; 1,614 records have been copied and 1,076 records, including (c) 164,132 khatians, have been finally published. According to the estimate the rents of 115,959 remain to be settled in this district.

(2) As regards case work, out of 9,752 objections filed since the commencement of the settlement proceedings under section 105, 9,413 have been disposed of, leaving a pending balance of 339. Out of a total of 1,531 disputes filed under section 106, 542 have been disposed of, the balance being 989. A large number of suits have lately been filed regarding Balasore town.

Vide Statement VI.

(3) Rents were increased for excess area in 15½ per cent. of cases, reduced for less area in 3¾ per cent., newly assessed in 4¾ per cent., altered on other grounds in 21½ per cent., and retained in 54¾ per cent. of cases.

Vide Statement IV.

In the first four months of the year the percentage of rents retained was about 56; it then fell to 50½, and since then has been about 52 or 53 per cent.

The sum of existing rents dealt with up to the end of September 1896 was Rs. 1,72,840 and of the corresponding rents settled Rs. 2,24,204, and during the year under report existing rents to the value of Rs. 5,94,315 have been dealt with and Rs. 6,87,281 settled. The total increase of assets up to date is thus Rs. 1,44,330. The estimated existing assets for the district are Rs. 10,25,000, so that an increase in assets of 2½ lakhs of rupees may be expected for the whole district.

Vide Statement V.

(4) There have been considerable variations in the percentage of enhancements of the chief classes of tenancy as shown in the following statement :—

	October.	November.	December.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Kharida ...	64	60	43	50	40	45	37	45	14	165	75	53
Nisfi ...	417	193	210	189	184	156	194	188	182	197	186	203
Kamil ...	51	56	59	54	55	47	50	49	69	42	44	60
Thani ...	8	9	7	6	4	6	6	15	9	10	12	15
Thani pahi ...	(-23)	4	6	6	5	3	5	3	8	6	8	10
Settled and occupancy	3	7	7	7	6	6	9	11	11	10	5	6

The percentages of enhancement on the whole for the past two years on the above classes have been as follows :—

Class.	1895-96.	1896-97.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4
Kharida ...	76*	47	* It will be remembered that in the experimental work which started in Balasore we considered that bazi-aftidars had been hardly treated. † For local reasons, i.e., in killa Ambohata, in which there was so much excess area, and which formed a large proportion of last year's work, the increase does not show.
Nisfi ...	227*	195	
Kamil ...	98*	54	
Thani ...	10	8	
Thani pahi ...	11†	6	
Settled and occupancy ...	8†	8	
All classes ...	30	16	

The cause of the lesser percentage of general enhancement this year is mainly due to the fact that the valuation of nijjote and nijohas lands was in many cases omitted from

the existing assets last year, and also to the fact that most of the assessment last year went on in pargana Ambohatta, where there was an exceptional amount of excess area in all holdings.

The enhancement of *nisfi baziaftidars* last year was considered too high, and privileged tenants have been treated much more leniently in the year under report.

Vide Statement V.

The incidence of rent per acre of the chief classes of tenancy is—

		Rs.	A.	P.			Rs.	A.	P.
Kharida ...	...	1	3	9	Thani ...	...	1	12	1
Nisfi ...	...	0	13	6	Thani pahi ...	...	1	11	11
Kamil ...	...	0	14	3	Settled and occupancy ...	...	1	14	9

5. *Absentees*.—Attendance at the fair-rent camps has been exceptionally good. Figures for 2,230 villages have been compiled. Out of 335,551 tenants, only 2,136, or '6 per cent., were entirely unrepresented, and had their rents altered.

6. *Assessment of estates*.—In three parganas the assessment reports of 36 estates have been submitted to the Commissioner in which proposals have been made to raise the Government revenue from Rs. 8,486 to Rs. 19,244 and Rs. 404, Chaudhari Fund. The Commissioner has confirmed the assessment of 17 estates, with a revenue of Rs. 5,437, to be now raised to Rs. 12,776. The figures of *killa Ambohatta* make the increase extraordinary, but it is extremely probable that the Government revenue of Balasore will be increased by 100 per cent.

PURI.

The estimated number of tenants, including *lakhiraj*, is 322,420 in 1,968 villages, and of plots 1,600,000. Probably not more than 2½ lakhs of rents have to be settled. The average number of plots per tenant in the Puri district is found to be 5. Up to 30th September 1896 the attestation and assessment of 158 villages with 20,077 tenants had been completed. The re-attestation of 556 villages with 89,758 tenants had also been completed, but this latter figure includes 337 villages of *Kotdesh* pargana with 68,990 tenants, for whom re-attestation was completed in 1893. The changes that had occurred since that date were so

numerous that the villages had practically to be reattested by the three officers engaged in assessment work in *Kotdesh* pargana. During the year the assessment of those 556 villages was completed. The reattestation and assessment of 1,199 villages were also completed, the two operations being in most parganas and for the greater part of the season combined.

The whole temporarily-settled area of the district has thus been attested and assessed with the exception of 133 villages of pargana *Rahang* with 18,711 tenants. Since the introduction of the combined procedure separate attestation returns have not been submitted, but the number of plots may, if required be roughly ascertained by multiplying the number of tenants by 5.

2. It will appear that in 8·5 per cent. of the total number of cases rents were increased for excess area; in 1·7 per cent. they were reduced for less area; in 6 per cent. rents were newly assessed; in 24 per cent they were altered on other grounds, and in 60 per cent. they were retained. In certain months of the season the percentage of retention was higher, averaging about 65 per cent. In the latter months more rents were altered as a result of the operation of the new rules introduced after the visit of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to Cuttack in February 1897. *Thani* rents were more freely enhanced, and unusually low *pahi* rents were also investigated and in many cases raised.

3. It will also be seen that up to date existing rents, amounting to Rs. 5,31,733, have been dealt with, and settled rents amount to Rs. 6,10,409. *Vide Statement V.* Of these sums, the amounts dealt with during the year 1896-97 were Rs. 4,93,844 and Rs. 5,64,783 respectively. The total existing assets of the district may be set down in round numbers at Rs. 5,52,000, and the settled assets at Rs. 6,32,000.

4. It has, however, to be borne in mind that the probable revision of rents in *Purbodoi* and *Oldhar* may cause some considerable reduction in the assets of the district. The general percentage of enhancement in 1896-97 has been 14 as against 8·6 in 1895-96, and the general percentage of enhancement up to date is 12·6. The distribution of enhancement over the more important classes of tenures is as follows:—

Class of tenancy.	1895-96.	1896-96.	Total.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
Kharida jamabandi ...	45	67	61	
Nisfi baziafti ...	108	103	103	
Kamil „ ...	16	33	32	
Thani ...	7	6	...	
Thani pahi, mixed ...	4	6	6 4	
Settled and occupancy ...	4	7	...	
General ...	8·6*	13·06	12·6	* Revised since the last annual return.

From this it will appear that the enhancement of assets has been obtained chiefly at the expense of the privileged tenures of last settlement. But even in the case of the *nisfi* it is not severe. An enhancement of 100 per cent. on *nisfi* rents leaves them still far below the level of *pahi* rents, as the following comparison of rental incidence will show:—

				Rs.	A.	P.
Kharida jamabandi	...	...	...	0	5	1
Nisfi baziafti	...	...	...	0	12	5
Kamil „	...	...	...	1	3	4
Thani	...	...	...	1	15	0
Thani pahi, mixed	...	...	...	1	14	8
Settled and occupancy	...	...	...	2	0	3
General	...	...	...	1	4	0

The explanation of the high enhancement of non-occupancy rents is that it is due to the assessment for the first time of newly-cultivated lands.

5. Month by month the number of absentees whose rents were altered in their absence after due service of special notice was very small indeed—2 for the present year's work and 3 for the total. It will be noted that the percentage was higher in the first months of fair-rent settlement, probably because the raiyats were not then accustomed to our methods.

6. The number of villages draft published during the year is 1,735. The number assessed was 1,935; also 100 villages were draft published last year.

Vide Statement VI.

There are practically no arrears of draft publication. All the villages that were draft published have been made over to the record-keeper at head-quarters, village records being taken back where necessary for case work.

7. Out of 8,960 cases under section 105 and 451 under section 106 filed during the year, only 809 section 105 and 58 section 106 remain pending at the close of the year. Case work has formed a special difficulty of the Puri work, specially since the receipt of orders sanctioning the institution of section 106 cases without affixing court-fee stamps. More than half of the time of officers deputed to completion work in the recess has been taken up by case work. The smallness of the pending file reflects great credit upon them.

8. Of the village records made over to the record-keeper, 1,540 have been made over to the Copying Department and 1,324 have been returned completed and ready for final publication.

Vide Statement IX.

The outturn of copying greatly exceeds the programme marked out in the beginning of the year.

Altogether 31½ lakhs of plots have been copied as follows:—

Final copy	...	11½ lakhs.
Zamindari copy	...	9½ „
Raiyati copy	...	9½ „

27½ lakhs have been compared; 27 lakhs checked. The number of khasra plots is found by dividing the above figures by 3. The average cost of copying, comparing, and checking was reduced in August to Re. 1-13-2. It has varied from Re. 1-15 to Re. 1-13-2. Of the 9 lakhs khasra plots that have been checked and are ready for final publication, 674,938 have been finally published up to date. The number

Vide Statement VIII.

of tenants whose khatians have been finally published is 121,764, of whom 107,562 have received copies of the khatians. The work was arranged so as to suit as far as possible the submission of completion reports.

The total number of estates in the district is 480, with a sadar jama of Rs. 3,08,000. Completion reports have been submitted at the close of the year for 102 estates, with an existing sadar jama of Rs. 76,403 and a proposed sadar jama of Rs. 1,01,605.

The enhancement amounts to 33 per cent. Parganas Lembai, Banchas, Damarkhand, Athaisi, Matkatpatna, Kodhar, Kurlo Astrung, and Tappakanman, and portions of Kotdesh and Rahang have been completed. In addition the work of Kotdesh mahal (including parganas Kotdesh and Antrodh) is well in hand. It should be noted also that a large portion of the time of one officer was devoted to the completion work of Purbadoi pargana before it was decided that the revision of assessment in that and other flooded parganas may have to be considered.

(d) KHURDA.

(1) During the field season of 1895-96 the re-survey and khanapuri of Khurda was taken up and completed. During recess of 1896 the Khurda traces were compared with the maps of the previous survey, and extensions of cultivation were shown on the new traces in distinctive colours. Attestation followed by fair-rent work began in November in four camps. From December onwards the outturn of attestation and settled rents rarely fell below 2,500 per officer per month. In May two officers joined from Cuttack, and in June Mr. Taylor had under him 12 officers (1 from Cuttack, 6 from Puri) up to the end

of September. The work of settlement of rents is now complete, with the exception of some 12,000 tenants in the scarcity-stricken pargana of Balbhadrapur.

(2) I give the following extracts from my inspection note, which describe the procedure followed and the manner in which various classes of tenants were dealt with:—

“During recess we have shown in distinctive colours the changes in the new traces due to extension or loss of cultivation in different kinds of lands. The old maps are also here in camp. The sarbarakars have with them their old *bhians* or rent-rolls. These papers show of exactly what fields and what classes of lands a raiyat's holding was originally composed. They are thus able to show to the raiyats how much of the original area is left, and can find out of what the balance is composed. These details are recorded at length in the lower part of the left-hand side of the khatian as they are being worked out, and are explained to the raiyats.

“In addition to the particulars as stated above being recorded in the lower half of the left-hand side of the khatian, a record was also made in the khatian of the manner in which the new rents will be fixed; and this record was explained to the raiyat along with his boundaries, areas, and existing rents, *i.e.*, the area under *gharbari* and *bagait*, with the rents fixed for these two classes of lands, was taken out of the total areas and rents. A reduction in the balance of rent was then made, if the area of the cultivated lands had been reduced by more than 2 per cent. or enhancement was made for any excess area of more than two per cent. The original rent for cultivated lands was then enhanced by three annas in the rupee, the rent for *gharbari* and *bagait* being retained, unless there was an excess or deficit of area, when the rent was raised (or lowered) by the product of the excess less 2 per cent. (or the deficit less 2 per cent.) and the rate now paid for these two classes of lands.

“A total was then made of the rents under these three different classes, and the raiyats, who had had all the calculations explained to them as they were being made, appeared to fully understand the manner in which their new rents were derived. The schedules were then written up, and the total new rents entered in the proper column.

“All this work is to be done at preliminary attestation. At final attestation the raiyat's khatian will be read out and his new rent announced to him. He will be told that in a week's time, after service of rule 23 (a) notice, he may come to make any objections to his new rent, and may apply for a new rent within one month; and on the day of final attestation the rule 23 (a) and 19 notices will be issued and served. I am satisfied that the sarbarakars have such a thorough knowledge of their records, and that disputes are so few that at preliminary attestation all the details can be recorded. Moreover, by proper attention to the rule 23 (a) and 19 notices no raiyat can be prejudiced. In fact, when he gets his *parcha* back at final attestation, and knows what his new rent will be, he can go back to his lands and see whether he can afford to pay it and return if he has any objection.

“The entry in the khatian runs as follows:—

	Existing rent.	Former area.	Present area.	Excess or deficit.	Allowance.	Balance.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs. A. P.					
Gharbari	2 0 0	500	560	+060	010	+050
Bagait	1 0 0	250	250	...	...	...
Tank	0 8 0	400	400	...	...	...
Fasulbandi and bajefasul ...	5 0 0	7000	8000	+1000	140	860
Total ...	8 8 0	8150	9210	1080	150	910
Rate.						Modified rent.
Rs. A. P.						Rs. A. P.
“Gharbari	... +000 × 4 0 0 =	+ 0 3 3				
“Fasulbandi	... +860 × 0 14 10 =	+ 0 12 10				

* “Where Rs. 4 is the *gharbari* rate of the village and As. 14-10 is the *naibadi* rate 12-6+3 annas in the rupee.)

“N.B.—If there is no room in a khatian for this note, take a blank khatian form and enter the name and khatian number, and make the note in the blank form, fixing it next below the khatian in the volume of khatians.

"The schedule is thus filled up from the khatian :—

Schedule number.	NAME OF TENANT.	Total existing rent.	Former area.	Present area.	AREA AND AMOUNT ON WHICH ENHANCEMENT OF 3 ANNAS PER RUPEE IS TO BE CALCULATED.		Enhancement at 3 annas per rupee on column 6.	RENTS AFTER ADDITION OR DEDUCTION, vide KHATIAN.				Total of columns 8 to 12, i.e., proposed rent.	Whether accepted or not.	Settled rent.	Whether accepted or not.	REMARKS.
					Area.	Rent.		Gharbari.	Bagait.	Tank.	Pasulbandi and bajefasal.					
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		Rs. A.				Rs.	As.	Rs. A. P.	Rs.	As.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.				
1	Ram Das ...	8 8	8'150	9'210	7,000	5	15	2 3 3	1	8	5 12 10	10 7 1	...	...	...	

"N.B.—The schedule serves as terij. In column 1, "Schedule number," numerator runs right through the village; denominator is serial number of tenant's own status. Columns 6 and 7 are necessary for statistical purposes (vide Return II).

"*Excess area or less area.*—A 2 per cent. allowance is given. In Khurda it is not necessary to give 10 per cent., because accurate maps were made 15 years ago, but some allowance is necessary. The Khurda raiyats are accustomed to detailed calculations, and they do not expect any further consideration.

"*Excess area.*—In this case the excess area is always new cultivation. The rate for *naibadi*, which the people understand and which is popular, is 12 annas 6 pies per acre; to this we add 3 annas in the rupee, and we assess the excess area, less 2 per cent. of the original area, at 14 annas 10 pies.

"*Less area.*—In this case it is nearly always possible to trace the history of the loss of area. Where this is done an adjustment of the rents in the khatians concerned is made, and no allowance is given.

"Where it is not possible to trace the lost area, 2 per cent. is subtracted from the old area, and a reduction of rent is made. The product of the difference between the old area, less 2 per cent., and the new area and the original rate paid by the tenant is deducted from the former rent.

"*Gharbari excess and less area.*—The same allowance is given, but the enhancement and reductions are regulated by the *gharbari* rates recorded in the sarbarakar's *bhians* or collection papers.

"(3) I now take the different classes of rent-paying lands, and set forth the manner in which they are being dealt with (vide Mr. Taylor's volume, *Khurda Selections*, page 86). As I have already explained what is being done in regard to area (excess or less), I do not again mention details.

"(a) *Chandna, Khushbash.*—Existing rents are being retained, except for alteration of area.

"(b) *Dofasal, Ekfasal, Dallow, Fallow, Bajefasal.*—Existing rents of original areas are being enhanced 3 annas in the rupee by consent.

"(c) *Orchards.*—Existing rents are being retained. Where rents are paid for the fruits of trees and not for the lands, an inspection is held and reduction or increase made, according to the manner in which the rents were originally fixed.

"*New orchards.*—Where rent is to be paid for the land, these orchards are being assessed at the lowest rate paid for cultivated lands, i.e., 8 annas 4 pies, following the custom prevailing throughout Orissa generally.

"(d) *Water.*—The rents are so small that they are not enhanced. The rents consist mostly of tanks constructed by raiyats, and these tanks are often of great assistance to the villagers. A lenient treatment may encourage others to construct similar works of utility.

"(e) *Kanungos' jagirs resumed at half-rent.*—These are being enhanced at 3 annas in the rupee.

"(f) *Confirmed tanki.*—Retained.

"(g) *Rafa tanki.*—Enhanced 3 annas in the rupee. The terms of the original compromise were that these tankidars should pay at the same rate of enhancement as raiyats were enhanced in the new settlement.

"(h) *Grace tanki jagirs.*—Enhanced at 3 annas in the rupee (see paragraph 301, page 106, volume IV, *Khurda Selections*).

"(i) *Life tanki jagirs.*—Retained, unless there is no one to claim them. The area is very small, 7 acres, paying Rs. 2-9-6.

"(j) *Khandaiyati jagirs.*—Retained (see paragraph 302 *et seq.*, pages 106 and 107, volume IV, *Khurda Selections*).

"(k) *Miscellaneous rents.*—Fixed in the same manner as at the last settlement.

"(l) Rents of water and land settled *annually*.

"(m) *Rent-free classes*—

Jagir—

(a) *Grace jagirs.*—Retained.

(b) *Sarbarakar's jagirs.*—The valuation used as a set-off against the sarbarakar's emoluments has been enhanced by 3 annas in the rupee.

- (c) *Paiks' etc., jagirs.*—A report has been made suggesting that these jagirs be retained on the ground that the holders are cheap servants of Government as zamindars.

Minha—

- (a) *Sarbarakar's Minha*—Has been valued as a set-off against their endowments.
(b) *Other minha*—Has been confirmed.

“(n) *Lands assessed, but not taken up and new cultivation* have been assessed at 14 annas 10 pies per acre; unless the khas mahal authorities show that any of the lands are particularly valuable, when a higher rate is applied.

“(o) The aboriginal tribes in the Banpur mals have been treated with special leniency.”

4. The result of the work is briefly as follows:—

[N.B.—The sarbarakars are paying according to the rents revised in 1885. The figures given do not include the whole of Balbhadrapur and Moghulbandi.]

AS ORIGINALLY RECORDED IN 1881.		AS REVISED IN 1885.		AS RECORDED AT THIS SETTLEMENT.		AS NOW SETTLED.
Area occupied.	Assets.	Area occupied.	Assets.	Area occupied.	Assets.	Assets.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Acres.	Rs.	Acres.	Rs.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs.
213,902	2,82,579	224,920	2,92,333	232,128	2,83,812	3,52,708

The detailed statement V will show how the different classes of tenants have been dealt with. Out of 190,412 tenants, the rents of 126,000 have been enhanced by 3 annas in the rupee. Existing assets have been raised from Rs. 2,96,000 to Rs. 3,62,000, or by over 22 per cent. One thousand three hundred and nine out of 1,377 villages have been dealt with, and in 1,301 villages draft publication has been made. In the case of only 216 tenants rents have been altered *ex parte*, and in 5 cases only have objections been taken in which evidence was recorded under the Civil Procedure Code. The case work is very light.

In Balbhadrapur 50 villages and Moghulbandi 4 villages remain for fair-rent work. The balance of 14 villages consists of resumed forests.

Mr. James Taylor and his Assistants have worked indefatigably through the rainy season, and, but for the scarcity in Balobhadrapur, all rents might have been settled by the end of October. He has now two Assistant Settlement Officers with him engaged in finishing the work and supervision of the statistical office. The new rents for the whole killa may be brought in from 1st January.

9. *Copying establishments and Progress.*—(1) In the end of recess 1896 a copying establishment was formed at Bhadrak, and 34,088 khatians were copied. The work was started in earnest this year.

Centres for copying the final records were opened at the following places on the dates noted opposite each:—

Cuttack district—

Cuttack	...	...	...	October 1896.
Jajpur	...	...	...	} March 1897.
Kendrapara	...	...	...	

Balasore district—

Bhadrak	...	...	...	August 1896.
Balasore	...	...	...	April 1897.

Puri district—

Pipli	...	...	...	January 1897.
Sonakhulla	...	...	...	March-April 1897.
Khurda	...	...	...	May 1897.

A centre was opened at Sonakhulla in Khurda, but was closed after the records of zillas (parganas) Banpur and Kuhuri were copied, and the establishment was removed to Khurda.

(2) *Accommodation.*—In the Cuttack district it has only been necessary to spend money on new buildings at Jajpur, where a working-shed and a permanent record-room have been constructed at a cost of Rs. 275 and nearly Rs. 1,900 respectively.

At Kendrapara suitable buildings have been hired for Rs. 9 per mensem, and at Cuttack it has been sufficient to put into repair portions of the building already occupied.

At Bhadrak in the previous year Rs. 6,000 was spent in erecting a large building for copying and case work. This year a record-room has been added at a cost of Rs. 900. The building and the record-room will hereafter be utilized by the maintenance of records establishment.

At Pipli Rs. 300 was spent in the beginning of the year, and Rs. 150 was sanctioned for additions to buildings. A record-room was also erected at a cost of nearly Rs. 1,000. At Khurda a building somewhat larger than that at Jajpur has been erected at a cost of Rs. 400.

(3) *Outturn of Work.*—The estimated and actual results for the year under report are as follows [*cf.* revised budget submitted with Settlement Officer's No. 770, dated 30th April 1897]:—

	Cuttack.	Balasore.	Puri.	Khurda.
1	2	3	4	5
Estimate ...	4,425,000	3,600,000	2,100,000	1,600,000
Actual ...	4,839,431	4,256,734	3,026,587	960,345
Difference ...	+414,431	+656,734	+926,587	-639,655

The figures show the number of plots copied. The Khurda outturn is below the estimate because the establishment started late and muharrirs could not be obtained. A glance at the progress of settlement of rents in Khurda will show that very little time has been lost in copying the records.

Thus, except in Khurda, the outturn has been much above the estimate, and on the whole the excess is 13½ lakhs of plots. The estimated cost was 8 annas per 100 plots.

The actual cost has been Rs. 78,902; the cost at the estimated rate of 8 annas per 100 plots would have been Rs. 65,415.

The work had to be learnt as it proceeded, and it was unavoidable that it should be considerably above the estimate at first, but it is now proceeding methodically, and it has been found possible to reduce the rates appreciably.

(4) A brief account of the rates paid hitherto will make this clear—

	Final khatian.	Zamindari copy.	Raiyati copy.
	A. P.	A. P.	A. P.
October 1896 ...	8 0 per 100	7 0 per 100	7 0 per 100
November 1896 ...	7 0 „	6 0 „	6 0 „
to ...			
February 1897 ...	7 0 „	3 0 „	6 0 „
March to August 1897	6 3 „	3 0 „	5 0 „
September			

I think that in future the expenditure will be kept within the original estimate of 8 annas per 100 plots copied.

As regards the cost of comparing and of supervision, the supervising staff are on fixed pay. For comparing the copied records a batch has been employed consisting of one man on fixed pay and three men who are paid by task work. This batch compares all three copies with the original simultaneously, one man reading and the others correcting. The task work-payments have been as follows:—

	Annas.
November 1896 to January 1897 ...	8 per 1,000 Nos.
February to April 1897 ...	12 „ „
May to August 1897 ...	8 „ „

Since August all comparers have been placed on a fixed pay of from Rs. 10 to Rs. 12 according to their capabilities. Fines are exacted for all mistakes detected in copying or comparing, and are paid to the person who discovers the mistakes.

(5) The technical rules for the preparation of the final khatian and the other copies have been worked out in great detail, as practical experience of the difficulties has been gained. The copying is done by task-work, and the supervising staff are placed on permanent pay. Care has been taken to make the copies as economical as possible.

In the final record the same entries are not repeated unnecessarily; for instance, boundaries are only given in the khatian of the immediate possessor of the soil and are never recorded twice for the same plot. In the case of tenure-holders full details of the plots in their private possession only are given, and of the land held by their raiyats, the number of plots, area and rent, and status and reference number of each raiyat is given, and no reference is made to under-raiyats. A similar principle is followed in the khatians of Government and revenue-free lands.

(6) In the zamindars' copies no mention is made of Government or revenue-free lands, and no boundaries or description are given of lands other than those in the private possession of the zamindars, and only the khatians of such lands and of tenure-holders or raiyats who hold directly from the zamindar are copied at all.

(7) In the copies made for distribution to tenure-holders and raiyats (in the raiyati form, full details and totals are given of the plots in their own possession, with an abstract of the number of plots, area, rent and status of each dependent holding, and a grand total of the whole.

(8) In all the copies the road and public works cesses at 6 pies in the rupee are now calculated and entered separately in the rent column of every raiyat, but not in the case of tenure-holders, nor holders of revenue-free land, nor under-raiyats.

(9) In the case of *kharida*, *baziafti*, and *thani* raiyats it is recorded in each raiyat's khatian and in the heading of the status in the final khatian that the rent is fixed for the term of settlement. Resumed chaukidari jagirs have been given the status of *thani*.

(10) Copies have been made for the records of nearly 11 lakhs of tenants, against more than 12 lakhs of tenants for whom fair rents have been settled. Considering that the period of draft publication and decision of disputes and cases intervenes, the copying work may be considered to be well up to date.

(11) *Assessment Reports*.—It has been decided that a separate, or special, report shall accompany the assessment proposals for each estate, but that a number of estates may be sent up in one block or general report.

With the special report of each estate are submitted the following four statements:—

- (1) Mahalwar khewat, record of proprietors in the estate.
- (2) A detailed statement showing the manner in which each class of tenants has been dealt with.
- (3) A comparison of areas for each village which comprises the estate, showing also the old and new revenue and the effect of the proposals on the proprietor's income.
- (4) A comparative statement of areas and assets (past and present settlements).

The special report should contain information on the following points:—

(1) A brief history of changes in proprietorship; whether the estate has been sold for arrears of revenue, and why; information, if obtainable, as required in II (A) (5), page 107, Survey and Settlement Manual; any matter in statement I, columns 2 and 3, which requires explanation; if the estate has been partitioned, a brief history of the batwara; the desirability of making a batwara or of amalgamation of the estate with another; where there is a proprietary tenure-holder, some account should be given of the nature of the tenure and the changes in the proprietorship.

(2) Detail of the unassessed area and an account of the extension in cultivation since the last settlement; prospects of further extension whether through reclamation of waste or improved communications, railway or otherwise.

(3) A brief comparison of existing with settled rents. Reasons for supposing that rents are too high or too low. Analysis of the rates of the new settled rents and a comparison with the rates of estates in the neighbourhood. If *pahi* rates have not risen up to *thani* rates, some explanation should be given or a reference made to the paragraph of the general report which deals with the matter; whether the settled rents are realizable or not; and if not, why not, *i.e.*, on account of liability of the lands to drought or inundation; whether rents were previously collected in full or not; whether any prospective difficulty in realising rents is apprehended; any information regarding abwabs; whether the estate is scattered or compact.

(4) A short account of the mufassal jama of the last settlement, of existing assets and of settled assets. A short account of the grounds of enhancement and any facts worthy of comment in statement II regarding the amount of enhancements of the rents of any class.

(5) A list of embankments in the estate, classified according to Mr. Odling's note (for inclusion in the *kabuliyat*).

(6) General effect on the income of the proprietor or proprietary tenure-holder of the proposed assessment. An account of the valuation for revenue of an account of all amounts which have been now entered as cash for the first time in the assets and an amount of rents payable for the first time. An account of the items in which concessions are recommended and the amount of concessions recommended.

(7) Any special *sairat* collections, *e.g.*, income from quarry, jungle-cutting, &c.

(8) Particulars of lands resumed for grazing, &c., or as rent-free for the benefit of the tenants.

(9) A brief *resumé* of the facts which led the Assistant Settlement Officer to fix the amount of malikana and allowance provided—

- (a) For the proprietary tenure-holder.
- (b) For the proprietors.

10. Any facts of special interest not recorded in the report.

[N.B.—The last settlement completion report should be consulted.]

11. The returns of the notice served on the proprietors and their objections in half margin with the Assistant Settlement Officer's answers in the other half.

(4) *Instructions for the general report*.

- (1) Boundaries and situation of the block.
- (2) Physical features and class of soil, any special features of climate or rainfall.
- (3) An account of the crops grown and results of crop experiments within the area (refer to the Settlement Officer, if necessary); methods of agriculture (if peculiar).
- (4) Communications (railways and roads); specially note if any improvements have been made since the settlement.

- (5) Irrigation, if any; its effect on rent rates.
- (6) Liability to inundation or drought or protection by embankments, &c.
- (7) Towns and markets.
- (8) Prices of common rice actually recorded at *hâts* about the time of submission of the reports (note whether it is a year of scarcity or not).
- (9) An analysis of rates for estates or villages. Reasons why (if so) *pahi* rates are still less than *thani* rates.
- (10) General condition of the people; whether emigration is common.
- (11) Principal products and trades.

12. Payment of village officials and other customs.

13. See part III, Chapter 15, Survey and Settlement Manual, pages 106-107; any other matters of general interest (the completion report of the last settlement should be consulted).

00. *Progress in completion of estates and in submission of assessment reports.*—I give two statements (X and XI)—one showing certain particulars regarding the estates which I have submitted to the Commissioner and the number which he has confirmed. The second statement shows the manner in which the Commissioner has dealt with the returns and the effect on the Government revenue. I have sent on to the Commissioner all reports of estates which the Assistant Settlement Officers sent to me by the middle of September. A very large number of reports have come in at the end of September, and I hope to send them on as I can find time to deal with them. The Commissioner has confirmed or modified the assessment proposals for 142 out of 209 estates submitted to him. I understand that in some cases reference has been made to the Board. The general results are as follows:—

AS SUBMITTED BY SETTLEMENT OFFICER TO COMMISSIONER.				AS CONFIRMED OR MODIFIED BY COMMISSIONER.				REMARKS.
Number of estates.	Old Government revenue.	Proposed Government revenue.	Enhancement per cent.	Number of estates.	Old Government revenue.	Proposed Government revenue.	Enhancement per cent.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
209	Rs. 1,06,808	Rs. 1,64,447	56	142	Rs. 63,006	Rs. 93,023, excluding Chaukidari Fund, Rs. 2,402.	48	

In 114 estates out of 125 estates of Cuttack the Commissioner has confirmed the Settlement Officer's proposals; in 11 estates the proposals were modified, the total revenue proposed (Rs. 3,153) being reduced to Rs. 3,117. In 16 out of 17 estates in Balasore proposals were confirmed, and the revenue in one estate reduced by one rupee.

In each district there is considerable variety. Thus in Cuttack the new revenue confirmed by the Commissioner is 43 per cent. in excess of the old revenue, while in Balasore it is 140 per cent. in excess. In Balasore the increase is specially large on account of the peculiar circumstances of *killa Ambahatta* (extension of cultivation). No reports have yet been submitted to the Commissioner for Puri.

It is impossible at this stage to forecast the amount of new revenue which it may be possible to bring in this year, as no orders have been received as to the date from which the new settlement shall take effect. So far as I dare to forecast, if we receive timely orders, new revenue for half the Province could be collected at the April kist, and of the balance half may be ready by the November kist, leaving half (*i.e.*, one-fourth of the whole) to be brought in at the kist of April 1899.

11. *Statistics.*—Statistics have been compiled during the year as follows:—

(1) Statements XII and XIII give comparative figures of assets and cultivation with the last and present settlements. These statements may be taken as approximately accurate.

I think that the existing assets (excluding Khurda) will turn out to be not less than 35 lakhs. These assets should be raised to more than 40 lakhs.

(2) *Lakhraj bahal*—*Statement XIV.*—Present areas of lakhraj bahal are being totalled for the whole Province, and will be ready in November. The figures for Puri are submitted.

(3) *Statement XV.*—The statement shows where estimates have been made and where actuals are taken. With the exception of column 11, the figures are nearly accurate.

(4) *Statement XVI.*—Milan khasras have been revised and rewritten, where necessary, in Cuttack for 3,454 villages out of 4,923, and in Puri for the temporarily-settled area. In Balasore and in the rest of Cuttack milan khasras are being revised and totalled, and the figures will be available early in November. By this date I hope to have revised and compiled milan khasra figures for the whole Province with the exception of Khurda.

(5) *Imposition of an owner's rate in Orissa.*—The question was discussed when His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor visited Orissa in January last. In their letter No. 342, dated 29th January 1895, the Government of India desired the settlement staff to ascertain the amount by which the annual letting value of an acre of land in various parts of the tract is enhanced by the extension to it of irrigation, and also to collect statistics as to the areas already irrigated on which the land revenue is (1) temporarily, (2) permanently assessed, the extent to which it is probable that each of these areas will increase during the currency of the new settlement, and the area which is expected to be irrigated during the

same period in each class of estates in tracts to which irrigation has not yet been extended. To ascertain whether there has been any rise in rent-rates directly due to irrigation, the Assistant Settlement Officers were asked to prepare statements in the following form for all irrigated tracts in which assessment work was going on during the year under report:—

Serial number.	Name of village.	AREA OF VILLAGE.		AREA AT LAST SETTLEMENT.		PRESENT AREA.		RATES PER ACRE.				REMARKS.
		Irrigated.	Unirrigated.	Cultivated.	Uncultivated.	Cultivated.	Uncultivated.	Thani at last settlement.	Pahi at last settlement.	Pahi rates before the introduction of the canal.	Pahi rate at present.	

For the purposes of comparison similar information was also compiled for a portion of the unirrigated tracts in another form.

In August last when the Director of Land Records and Agriculture was here on special duty, this question and the question of maintenance of embankments were discussed with the Superintending Engineer. The latter suggested that, in order to ascertain approximately what share of the increase in land revenue was due to protection and irrigation, figures should be compiled, when all the new revenue had been settled, showing incidence of land revenue in a tract open to flood, like that between the Taldanda Canal and the Kendrapara Canal, and they should be compared with similar figures for the protected and irrigated lands between Kendrapara and Patamundi Canals. I propose to compile the figures as soon as the new land revenue is settled for these tracts. Attempts are also being made to ascertain, as far as possible, the probable effect on revenue of abandoning certain embankments which the Public Works Department do not propose to maintain permanently. It may be mentioned here that the Government has accepted the proposal of Mr. P. O. Lyon, Officiating Director of Land Records and Agriculture, to postpone the submission of the final report on these subjects till 1898. In the meantime every attempt will be made to compile the statistics called for by the Government of India, with as much accuracy and fullness as possible.

STATEMENT I.

Statement showing disposition of officers.

NAME OF OFFICER.	Where employed.	Name of work.	PERIOD.		No. of days on tour.	REMARKS.
			From.	To		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
S. L. Maddox, Esq., C.S., Settlement Officer of Orissa Division.	Orissa Province ... ..	.....	1st October	30th September	126	
1. J. E. Webster, Esq., C.S., Assistant Settlement Officer in Charge Cuttack.	Cuttack	Inspection	1st October 1896	30th September 1897	182	Went on one month's privilege leave on 25th September 1897.
2. H. McPherson, Esq., C.S. ...	Puri	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	264	
3. D. H. Kingsford, Esq., C.S. ...	Cuttack, Balasore	Ditto	1st October	Ditto	190	
4. W. B. Thomson, Esq., C.S. ...	Balasore	Ditto	5th October 1896	17th February 1897	109	
5. H. D. de M. Carey, Esq., C.S. ...	Cuttack	Ditto	20th February 1897	30th September	208	Went on 26 days' privilege leave on the 6th September.
6. James Taylor, Esq., ...	Khurda	Ditto and assessment work.	1st October 1896	30th September	356	Went on privilege leave on the 25th September 1897.
7. Babu Jamini Mohan Das ...	Jajpur circle	Assessment and completion work.	1st October	30th September	287	
8. " Harish Chandra Roy ...	Balubisi	Ditto	Ditto	30th September	282	
9. " J-gendra Narayan Mitra ...	Asureswar Sungra	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	353	
10. " Debendra Prasad Kar ...	Shergara Harihurpur	Ditto	23rd October	Ditto	331	
11. " Hira Lal Banerjee ...	Tikan circle, Nalakhanda Kalamatia.	Ditto	21st October	Ditto	178	
12. " Sreeram Chandra Bose ...	Utikan Bakhrabad	Ditto	3rd November	Ditto	333	
13. Maulvi Mahamed Chainuddin ...	Dalijora	Ditto	23rd October	Ditto	287	
14. Babu Nobin Chandra Kar ...	Alu	Ditto	1st October	Ditto	282	
15. " Amrita Sikhar Mukherjee ...	Koknakhanda	Assessment work	Ditto	Ditto	300	Was on privilege leave from 25th July to 30th September 1897.
16. " Kshitish Chandra Sirkar ...	Jhaukar	Ditto	24th November 1896	Ditto	...	
17. " Murari Misra ...	Kalamatia	Ditto	24th October 1896	16th June 1897	316	Reverted to general line.
18. " Gobind Chandra Das Gupta ...	Olas	Ditto	Ditto	30th September 1897	324	
19. " Phanindra Nath Mukherjee ...	Barnan Khurda	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	324	
20. " Shyama Churn Dutt ...	Ahiyas Khurda	Ditto	31st October 1896	Ditto	321	
21. " Harashaye Lal ...	Katia Khurda	Ditto	24th October 1896	Ditto	172	Reverted to general line.
22. " Satis Chandra Guha ...	Jodh Nalakhanda	Ditto	Ditto	20th April 1897	...	
23. Mr. J. W. Minden Augier ...	Harihurpur	Ditto	11th November 1896	3rd May 1897	163	Ditto.
24. Babu Bhuban Mohun Gupta ...	Jajpur Sub-circle Kodinda Padampur.	Ditto	23rd October 1896	22nd September 1897	330	Ditto.
25. " Jagannath Prasad Dutt ...	Bhadrak	Draft publication and tabulation work.	1st October 1893	11th October 1896	...	
26. " Srigopal Bhattacharjee ...	Khurda	Assessment	11th October 1896	30th September 1897	322	
27. " Ramesh Chandra Das ...	Balkhand	Ditto	1st October 1896	Ditto	218	
28. " Jogeswar Biswas ...	Randia Orgora	Ditto	23rd October 1896	28th February 1897	97	Ditto.
29. " Kunja Behari Goswami ...	Balikhand	Ditto	Ditto	30th September 1897	204	
30. " Abhey Prasad Das ...	Soso	Ditto	Ditto	17th April 1897	170	Ditto.
31. " Jagabandhu Ghose ...	Dhamniagar	Ditto	Ditto	30th September 1897	215	
32. " Harekrishna Mahanty ...	Bayang	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	316	
33. " Debendra Nath Bose ...	Sanant and Arso	Ditto	1st October 1896	Ditto	317	
34. " Surendra Nath Sirkar ...	Ankura	Ditto	23rd October 1896	Ditto	239	
35. " Isan Chandra Das ...	Nuskhanda	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	281	
36. " Saradaund Das ...	Arso	Ditto	Ditto	29th May 1897	210	Ditto.
37. " Prasana Kumar Banerjee ...	Bhera	Ditto	1st October 1896	11th October 1896	...	
38. " Kali Mohan Sen ...	Randia Orgora	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	245	
39. " Nadia Chand Dutt ...	Kotdesh	Ditto	12th October 1896	30th September 1897	329	Transferred to Saran Settlement.
40. " Ajoy Chandra Das ...	Khurda	Attestation and assessment	23rd October 1896	29th September 1897	327	Reverted to general line.
41. " Akshoy Kumar Sen ...	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	312	Ditto.
42. " Jctindra Mohun Sinha ...	Bahang	Ditto	25th October 1896	3rd September 1897	358	
43. " Amrita Lal Gupta ...	Lembai	Ditto	1st October 1896	30th September 1897	254	
44. " Balmakund Kanoongoe ...	Antrodh	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	221	
45. " Ram Kanhai Pal ...	Chowbiskud	Ditto	25th October 1896	30th June 1897	112	Transferred to Saran Settlement.
46. " Jagadish Chandra Lahiri ...	Khurda	Ditto	1st July 1897	29th September 1897	180	
47. " Sudarsan Das ...	Athais	Ditto	1st October 1896	3rd April 1897	132	
48. " ...	Khurda	Ditto	4th April 1897	30th September 1897	126	
49. " ...	Kotdesh	Ditto	24th October 1896	30th April 1897	150	
50. " ...	Khurda	Ditto	1st May 1897	30th September 1897	210	
51. " ...	Purbadai	Ditto	1st November 1896	30th May 1897	110	Reverted to general line.
52. " ...	Khurda	Ditto	1st June 1897	30th September 1897	102	Ditto.
53. " ...	Kodhar	Ditto	25th October 1896	25th July 1897	275	
54. " ...	Khurda	Ditto	27th July 1897	29th September 1897	98	
55. " ...	Kotdesh	Ditto	1st October 1896	30th May 1897	249	
56. " ...	Khurda	Ditto	1st June 1897	30th September 1897	102	

STATEMENT II.

Settlement Officer's annual Return of Boundary Disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act for the year ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF.			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE MONTH UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
	From the beginning of the year (1st Octo- ber), including cases pending on 30th Sep- tember, to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending from preceding year	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been--			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Cuttack	35*	20	Nil	...	36	36	19†	...	...	...	...	...	
Balasore	...	...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Puri	...	...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Khurda	...	...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	

* The number of cases shown pending in last year's annual return was 59; this figure was incorrect, owing to 24 cases having been twice entered.

† These cases are mainly disputes with tributary states.

STATEMENT III.

*Statement showing Progress made in Attestation work in the province of Orissa during the year ending
30th September 1897.*

Serial num- ber.	NAME OF DISTRICT.	WORK TO BE DONE.			WORK DONE UP TO END OF PREVIOUS YEAR.			WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR 1896-97.			TOTAL WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF SEPTEMBER 1897.			BALANCE (a).			REMARKS.
		Village.	Plot.	Area.	Village.	Plot.	Area.	Village.	Plot.	Area.	Village.	Plot.	Area.	Village.	Plot.	Area.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1	Cuttack ...	4,923	4,193,139	2,273'38	4,904	4,182,694	2,267'07	2	9,380	5'10	4,906	4,192,074	2,273'07	17	(a) 1,065	0'31	
2	Balasore ...	8,638	2,229,671	1,733'11	3,622	2,212,355	1,727'69	10	14,756	4'31	3,632	2,227,111	1,732'00	(b) 6	2,560	1'00	
3	Puri ...	(c) 1,968	1,472,949	985'00	1,968	1,472,949	985'00				1,968	1,472,949	985'00				
4	Khurda ...	1,377	754,307	913'47	(e)	.....	...	1,305	739,750	377'58	1,305	739,307	377'58	(d) 72	14,557	533'89	

(a) Figures in columns 4 and 10 have been revised from actual calculation.

(b) These are detached lands of temporarily-settled estates lying within the ambit of permanently-settled estates.

(c) In the last year's return 48 villages were shown as attested. As they have been reattested this year, they have been included in this year's return.

(d) Of these, the rents of 54 villages will have to be settled. The remaining 18 villages consist of reserve forests: hence the large balance of area.

(e) These are correct figures. Last year 1,957 was shown.

STATEMENT IV.

ORISSA DIVISION.

Analysis of Rent fixed during the year ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF OFFICER.	VILLAGES.			TENANTS.			NUMBER OF TENANTS WHOSE RENT IS—					Number of objections in which proceedings under the Civil Procedure Code have been taken.	REMARKS.
	Total number in district.	Completed in previous year.	In present year.	Total number.	Completed in previous year.	In present year.	Increased for excess area.	Reduced for less area.	Newly assessed.	Altered on other grounds.	Retained.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
CUTTACK DISTRICT.													
1. Babu Harish Chandra Roy ...	...	...	155	...	...	23,269	3,434	757	2,204	5,580	14,204	197	
2. " Nabin Chandra Kar ...	...	...	153	...	...	25,738	3,671	473	1,130	5,437	15,027	15	
3. " Jamini Mohan Das ...	...	...	110	...	...	21,850	1,024	235	2,138	5,642	12,761	39	
4. " Sreeram Chandra Bose ...	...	...	125	...	...	16,989	1,767	465	1,008	4,317	9,232	168	
5. " Amrita Sikhar Mukherjee ...	...	...	101	...	...	17,835	1,400	555	1,341	3,497	1,142	86	
6. " Phanindra Nath Mukherjee ...	...	...	134	...	...	22,030	2,081	769	1,910	4,422	12,848	4	
7. J. W. Minden Augier, Esq. ...	...	...	45	...	...	10,313	782	1	234	3,637	5,659	250	
8. Maulvi Mahamed Chainuddin ...	...	...	143	...	...	21,207	3,553	281	1,517	4,369	10,847	63	
9. Babu Murari Misra ...	...	...	61	...	...	10,558	2,966	694	370	3,122	9,406	16	
10. " Debendra Prasad Roy ...	...	...	231	...	...	29,429	4,517	721	4,140	4,654	15,397	27	
11. " Bhuvan Mohan Gupta ...	...	...	77	...	...	12,558	1,129	540	872	2,889	7,728	...	
12. " Harshaye Lal ...	...	...	43	...	...	14,326	900	176	187	3,397	9,666	6	
13. " Hira Lal Banerjee ...	...	...	178	...	...	29,640	3,624	893	1,456	6,409	17,259	113	
14. " Kshitish Chandra Sirkar ...	...	...	140	...	...	23,109	3,149	867	1,784	5,459	11,850	9	
15. " Jogendra Narayan Mitra ...	...	...	137	...	...	24,310	2,169	623	777	6,165	14,576	30	
16. " Satis Chandra Guha ...	...	...	65	...	...	10,631	1,087	273	461	1,781	7,059	13	
17. " Sama Charan Dutt ...	...	...	24	...	...	15,285	857	...	243	5,171	9,014	18	
18. " Gobind Chandra Das Gupta ...	...	...	130	...	...	25,872	2,646	1,176	1,104	3,763	17,183	130	
19. J. E. Webster, Esq., I.C.S. ...	...	...	1	...	...	214	52	10	14	11	127	5	
Total ...	923	452	2,043	850,000	59,199	364,583	40,808	10,119	23,019	79,722	210,885	1,171	
GRAND TOTAL ...	...	...	...	...	...	(421,782)	or 11'19'°	or 2'78'°	or 6'32'°	or 21'87'°	or 57'84'°	...	
W. B. Thomson, Esq., C. S.													
1. Babu Srigopal Bhattacharjee ...	...	...	157	...	...	22,716	2,162	595	433	6,919	12,607	...	
2. " Ramesh Chandra Das ...	...	...	38	...	...	11,714	2,375	385	939	2,680	5,335	160	
3. " Jogesswar Biswas ...	...	...	157	...	...	17,818	3,275	385	1,801	2,474	9,883	11	
4. " Prasanna Kumar Banerjee ...	...	...	11	...	...	3,075	682	45	102	675	1,971	...	
5. " Girish Chandra Dutt ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
6. " Abhoy Prasad Das ...	...	...	139	...	...	25,198	4,275	1,511	1,558	4,299	13,555	...	
7. " Harikrishna Mahanty ...	...	...	138	...	...	39,281	5,849	1,537	913	8,473	22,506	89	
8. " Kunja Behari Goswami ...	...	...	142	...	...	16,215	2,007	787	767	2,383	10,181	64	
9. " Jagabandhu Ghose ...	...	...	154	...	...	37,890	7,321	2,081	2,068	8,249	18,181	77	
10. " Debendra Nath Bose ...	...	...	179	...	...	29,918	4,364	593	875	7,006	17,080	...	
11. " Sarada Nand Das ...	...	...	157	...	...	19,519	2,396	57	732	2,799	13,035	25	
12. " Surendra Nath Sirkar ...	...	...	181	...	...	26,940	3,248	1,276	1,191	7,839	13,895	7	
13. " Isan Chandra Das ...	...	...	146	...	...	10,845	1,671	510	926	2,175	5,663	121	
Total ...	3,638	804	1,598	475,000	97,912	261,129	40,125	9,862	12,285	55,965	142,892	554	
GRAND TOTAL ...	...	...	...	...	...	(359,041)	or 15'36'°	or 3'77'°	or 4'71'°	or 21'43'°	or 54'73'°	...	
Babu Ajoy Chandra Das													
1. Babu Ajoy Chandra Das ...	...	...	157	...	...	27,067	1,443	186	2,017	6,225	17,196	40	
2. D. H. Kingsford, Esq., C.S. ...	...	...	93	...	...	1,325	167	...	111	154	893	...	
3. Babu Akshoy Kumar Sen ...	...	...	195	...	...	32,254	2,587	726	552	9,243	19,146	3	
4. " Amrita Lal Gupta ...	...	...	255	...	...	22,682	2,268	664	1,229	2,615	15,906	15	
5. " Jotindra Mohan Sinha ...	...	...	175	...	...	20,083	1,756	488	1,077	5,056	11,708	4	
6. " Shyama Charan Sen ...	...	...	135	...	...	13,735	1,439	534	412	3,744	7,606	4	
7. " Ram Kanhai Pal ...	...	...	108	...	...	18,845	2,009	58	675	5,469	10,636	...	
8. " Jagadis Chandra Lahiri ...	...	...	131	...	...	20,911	2,512	1,063	1,766	4,099	11,481	2	
9. " Sundarsan Das ...	...	...	144	...	...	30,732	1,897	65	1,203	6,879	20,088	...	
10. " Prasanna Kumar Banerjee ...	...	...	193	...	...	26,289	1,820	200	4,285	7,385	12,599	...	
11. " Balmakund Kanoongoe ...	...	...	89	...	...	18,415	1,902	89	1,109	4,800	10,455	22	
Total ...	1,968	158	1,735	275,000	20,077	232,338	19,798	4,073	14,486	55,669	138,312	90	
GRAND TOTAL ...	...	...	...	...	...	(252,415)	or 8'53'°	or 1'75'°	or 6'23'°	or 23'96'°	or 59'53'°	...	
James Taylor, Esq.													
1. James Taylor, Esq. ...	...	...	116	...	...	14,193	215	57	811	9,214	3,896	1	
2. Babu Jaganath Prasad Dutt ...	...	...	215	...	...	35,318	803	239	2,052	21,241	10,983	...	
3. " Kali Mohan Sen ...	...	...	265	...	...	27,089	482	120	1,506	16,010	8,971	...	
4. " Nadia Chand Dutt ...	...	...	253	...	...	34,892	870	253	1,989	22,632	9,148	4	
5. " Balmakund Kanoongoe ...	...	...	75	...	...	16,228	306	91	970	10,144	4,717	...	
6. " Shyama Charan Sen ...	...	...	47	...	...	4,882	19	4	200	3,707	3,52	...	
7. " Harshaye Lal ...	...	...	62	...	...	14,556	53	26	828	10,097	3,552	...	
8. " Shyama Charan Dutt ...	...	...	48	...	...	9,703	130	21	915	6,373	2,264	...	
9. " Sudarsan Das ...	...	...	71	...	...	9,416	70	14	610	6,436	2,286	...	
10. " Ram Kanhai Pal ...	...	...	52	...	...	7,897	75	8	484	5,494	1,836	...	
11. " Amrita Lal Gupta ...	...	...	33	...	...	5,551	86	26	275	3,655	1,508	...	
12. " Jagdish Chandra Lahiri ...	...	...	42	...	...	6,964	63	13	364	4,589	1,935	...	
13. " Phanindra Nath Mukherjee ...	...	...	21	...	...	3,723	17	5	290	2,674	741	...	
Total ...	1,377	...	1,305	225,000	...	190,412	3,189	877	11,290	122,267	52,789	5	
GRAND TOTAL ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	or 1'67'°	or 0'46'°	or 5'93'°	or 6'24'°	or 27'72'°	...	

N.B.—The figures in column 6 are the total of the figures in columns 7 to 11 and should be the same as the figures in column 72 of Return II.

STATEMENT V.

Return showing the manner in which Rents have been fixed for each class of Tenants during the year ending 30th September 1897.

A.—RENT-PAYING.																				
NAME OF DISTRICT.	KHARIDA JAMABANDI AND OTHER TENURES, EXCLUDING SARBARAKARI, MAHADDAMI, AND SIKMI ZAMINDARS.					NISFI BAZIAFTI.					KAMIL BAZIAFTI.					THANI.				
	Number.	Area.	Existing rent.	Settled rent.	Enhancement per cent.	Number.	Area.	Existing rent.	Settled rent.	Enhancement per cent.	Number.	Area.	Existing rent.	Settled rent.	Enhancement per cent.	Number.	Area.	Existing rent.	Settled rent.	Enhancement per cent.
1 (a)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Cuttack	14,389	Acres. 31,510	Rs. 16,537	Rs. 29,127	+87	41,964	Acres. 33,323	Rs. 15,374	Rs. 44,452	+191	11,879	Acres. 9,657	Rs. 8,531	Rs. 12,883	+51	10,078	Acres. 16,678	Rs. 44,289	Rs. 46,061	+4
Puri	3,616	14,354	10,137	10,990	+68	23,371	41,913	23,591	48,130	+103	4,943	5,976	5,344	7,112	+33	20,431	32,835	59,823	63,766	+7
Balasore	3,667	8,865	7,491	11,025	+47	27,398	42,919	12,374	36,206	+195	9,496	15,444	8,946	13,764	+54	4,780	8,333	13,647	14,764	+8
Khurda	1,326	2,151	Tanki Bahal. (a) 914			11,280	26,139	17,592	20,833	+18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

A.—RENT-PAYING—continued.																				
NAME OF DISTRICT.	THANI PAHI MIXED.					SETTLED AND OCCUPANCY.					NON-OCCUPANCY.					CHANDUA.				
	Number.	Area.	Existing rent.	Settled rent.	Enhancement per cent.	Number.	Area.	Existing rent.	Settled rent.	Enhancement per cent.	Number.	Area.	Existing rent.	Settled rent.	Enhancement per cent.	Number.	Area.	Existing rent.	Settled rent.	Enhancement per cent.
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
Cuttack	10,667	Acres. 48,389	Rs. 1,17,840	Rs. 1,33,902	+5	163,957	Acres. 188,616	Rs. 5,28,134	Rs. 5,72,463	+8	5,864	Acres. 4,643	Rs. 11,163	Rs. 12,254	+9	10,013	Acres. 2,111	Rs. 10,448	Rs. 10,593	+1
Puri	15,151	58,628	1,05,753	1,12,307	+6	82,152	117,167	2,05,340	2,20,152	+7	1,149	1,144	1,178	1,768	+50	6,611	995	5,736	5,840	+2
Balasore	16,560	78,706	1,26,312	1,33,402	+6	119,059	196,977	3,50,899	3,79,308	+8	2,848	2,763	4,155	4,722	+14	5,293	1,227	5,555	5,448	-1
Khurda	.....	.....	.....	.....	..	120,152	192,949	2,59,671	3,14,520	+21	4,723	5,655	2,150	5,352	+149	14,087	1,073	5,937	6,701	+13

A.—RENT-PAYING—concluded.																
NAME OF DISTRICT.	GRAND TOTAL OF BAIYATS.					OTHER TENANCIES NOT BINDING AGAINST GOVERNMENT (ASSESSED TO RENT).					SARKARI JAGIR NOW PROVISIONALLY ASSESSED.			TOWFIR.		
	Number.	Area.	Existing rent.	Settled rent.	Enhancement per cent.	Number.	Area.	Existing rent.	Settled rent.	Enhancement per cent.	Number.	Area.	Rent.	Number.	Area.	Rent.
	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56
Cuttack	200,679	Acres. 260,337	Rs. 7,11,874	Rs. 7,65,273	+8	594	Acres. 363	Rs. 133	Rs. 950	+588	4,092	Acres. 6,795	Rs. 10,268	Rs. 2,368	Acres. 498	Rs. 1,104
Puri	125,494	210,769	3,77,828	4,03,833	+7	538	73,034	851	1,231	.....	2,275	3,751	6,880	1,112	316	414
Balasore	148,540	288,006	5,00,568	5,37,742	+7	1,134	1,026	185	1,911	+933	1,685	5,774	9,940	2,948	938	1,480
Khurda	138,962	199,677	2,67,758	3,26,573	+22	418	1,039	.....	.....	.....	445	850	1,379	13,241	1,230	.....
											Jagirs assessed to rent. Minha.					

B.—ASSESSED TO REVENUE.																		
NAME OF DISTRICT.	OTHER TENANCIES NOT BINDING AGAINST GOVERNMENT (ASSESSED TO REVENUE).					NIJ-JOTE AND NIJ-GHAS.				TOTAL.					Total of all other tenants whose rents have been settled.	Grand total of tenants dealt with during the year.	REMARKS.	
	Number.	Area.	Existing rent.	Valuation for revenue.	Enhancement per cent.	Number.	Area.	Valuation for revenue.	Sairat.	Number.	Area.	Existing rent.	Settled rent.	Variation per cent.				
	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	
Cuttack	12,577	12,610	Rs. 2,353	Rs. 26,733	Rs. +1,003	11,168	32,204	91,087	9,595	299,610	382,002	Rs. 8,54,369	Rs. 9,96,472	+16	64,973	364,583		
Puri	3,621	1,670	...	5,339	...	11,077	38,316	73,034	3,820	182,082	314,410	4,93,844	5,64,783	+14	50,256	232,338		
Balasore	6,004	5,845	...	10,353	...	6,530	29,691	53,600	11,191	206,842	399,207	5,94,315	6,87,281	+16	54,287	261,129		
Total										638,534	10,96,625	19,42,528	22,48,336	+16	169,516	858,050		
Khurda	...	...	...	...	...	Minha assessed to rent. 4,885 492 2,092				Former settlement. 548	Present settlement. 915	170,557(b)	232,128	2,86,812	3,52,708	+23	19,855	190,412(c)
GRAND TOTAL										859,091	13,28,753	22,29,340	26,01,044	+17	189,371	1,048,462		

(a) The rents of tankidars are fixed in perpetuity.

(b) The existing rents (Rs. 2,72,520) of 126,036 tenants holding 183,276 acres have been enhanced at 3 annas per rupee.

(c) This includes 513 sarbarakari jagirs comprising 2,827 acres, of which the existing valuation (Rs. 4,902) has been raised by the present proceedings to Rs. 5,054, and 152 sarbarakari minha and 6 *minhayuti* jagir (life-grants) comprising 40 and 4 acres, respectively, which have been assessed to Rs. 147 and Rs. 6 respectively.

STATEMENT VI.

Return of draft publication and case work during the year ending 30th September 1897.

ORISSA DIVISION.

NAME OF OFFICER.	Total number of villages in circle.	Total number of villages in which fair rents have been settled up to end of the year.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH DRAFT PUBLICATION HAS BEEN COMPLETED.			OBJECTIONS UNDER SECTION 105, TENANCY ACT—						SUITS UNDER SECTION 106, TENANCY ACT—						REMARKS.		
			To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	FILED.			DISPOSED OF.			PENDING.	FILED.			DISPOSED OF.			PENDING.	
						To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.		Total.	
1	1(a)	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Cuttack ...	4,923	2,495	303	1,959	2,262	429	14,551	14,980	380	13,791	14,171	809	1	494	495	...	373	373	122	
Balasore ...	3,638	2,402	707	1,618	2,325	360	9,392	9,752	251	9,102	9,413	339	96	1,435	1,531	33	509	542	989*	
Puri ...	1,968	1,893	100	1,735	1,835	33	9,736	9,769	17	8,943	8,960	809	13	438	451	8	385	393	68	
Khurda ...	1,377	1,305	...	1,301	1,301	...	1,845	1,845	...	1,766	1,766	79	...	127	127	...	48	48	79	
Total ...	11,906	8,095	1,110	6,613	7,723	822	35,524	36,346	648	33,662	34,310	2,036	110	2,494	2,604	41	1,315	1,356	1,248	

* The number has accumulated through want of officers. Many cases concerning the town of Balasore and its neighbourhood have been filed lately.

STATEMENT VII.

Final Publication Return for the year ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF DISTRICT.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES FINALLY PUBLISHED.			Total area up to date.	Total number of plots up to date.	NUMBER OF TENANTS FINALLY PUBLISHED.			Total number of khatians distributed up to date.	REMARKS.
	In previous years.	In present year.	Total.			In previous years.	In present year.	Total.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Cuttack ...	...	1,263	1,263	237,817·85	727,035	...	260,464	260,464	185,038	
Balasore ...	...	1,076	1,076	287,180·70	676,990	...	164,132	164,132	135,611	
Puri ...	...	1,106	1,106	269,064·33	674,938	...	121,764	121,764	107,562	
Khurda ...	...	681	681	216,800·00	305,241	...	81,743	81,743	69,962	
Total ...	...	4,126	4,126	1,010,862·88	2,384,204	...	628,103	628,103	498,173	

STATEMENT VIII.

Return of appeals preferred to the Special Judge during the year ending September 1897.

NAME OF MONTH.	APPEALS AGAINST DECISIONS UNDER SECTION 104.						APPEALS AGAINST ORDERS UNDER SECTION 105.						APPEALS AGAINST DECISIONS UNDER SECTION 106.						REMARKS.
	Instituted.	Disposed of—				Pending.	Instituted.	Disposed of—				Pending.	Instituted.	Disposed of—				Pending.	
		Confirmed.	Dismissed.	Modified.	Remanded.			Confirmed.	Dismissed.	Modified.	Remanded.			Confirmed.	Dismissed.	Modified.	Remanded.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
October 1896	2	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	
November 1896	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	
December 1896	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	
January 1897	1	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	
February 1897	1	2	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	
March 1897	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	
April 1897	...	...	...	...	...	3	6	...	...	...	...	9	4	...	...	...	...	4	
May 1897	...	...	4	...	...	4	4	...	...	...	...	13	2	...	...	...	...	6	
June 1897	...	...	...	...	...	1	10	...	...	...	...	23	...	...	...	...	...	8	
July 1897	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	25	5	...	1	...	...	8	
August 1897	5	...	...	...	...	6	3	...	...	2	...	26	1	...	...	...	...	9	
September 1897	...	...	...	...	...	6	13	...	...	...	...	39	9	...	...	...	...	18	
For the year 1896-97 ...	9	2	1	...	...	6	42	...	...	1	2	59	20	...	1	1	...	18	

STATEMENT IX.

Annual Return of the Copying Department for Orissa Division for the year ending 30th September 1897.

Name of District.	FINAL KHATAK.		ZAMINDARI COPY.		BAIYATI COPY.		COMPARING.			Cost of super vision.	Contingencies and miscellaneous disbursements.	Total expenditure.
	Number of plots copied.	Amount paid.	Number of plots copied.	Amount paid.	Number of plots copied.	Amount paid.	Number of plots compared.	Amount paid to the compared.	Amount paid to the compared.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Cuttack ...	1,895,025	Rs. A. P. 7,938 13 7	1,510,561	Rs. A. P. 3,860 10 4	1,493,845	Rs. A. P. 5,320 10 0	4,612,792	Rs. A. P. 7,476 15 1	3,095 15 9	Rs. A. P. 4,108 4 8	Rs. A. P. 31,820 3 6	Rs. A. P. 31,820 3 6
Bhubaneswar ...	1,653,304	7,074 8 1	1,383,084	2,755 10 11	1,387,797	3,467 8 1	2,538,983	2,038 0 10	1,506 1 3	Rs. A. P. 2,238 5 0	Rs. A. P. 28,820 13 10	Rs. A. P. 28,820 13 10
Puri ...	1,122,436	4,547 1 2	984,982	1,978 3 9	3,49,730	3,411 11 8	2,700,463	4,125 7 10	1,953 13 2	Rs. A. P. 2,068 14 11	Rs. A. P. 15,472 4 6	Rs. A. P. 15,472 4 6
Khurda ...	4,70,609	..	82,022	..	4,71,454	..	734,192	..	..	..	Rs. A. P. (b) 5,970 6 11	Rs. A. P. (b) 5,970 6 11
	5,064,084	(c) 19,860 6 10	3,840,618	(c) 7,824 13 0	4,178,395	(c) 13,965 13 9	12,416,305	(c) 14,300 7 9	(c) 6,585 14 2	(c) 9,462 9 2	(c) 932 4 2	78,902 11 9

(a) Expenditure on contingencies not given.

(b) Expenditure on each head not given.

(c) These figures do not include the amounts spent under these heads in Khurda, for which only the total expenditure has been shown.

STATEMENT X.

Return of progress in the settlement of land revenue in estates for the year ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF PARGANA.	NUMBER OF ESTATES FOR WHICH ASSESSMENT PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN SENT UP BY SETTLEMENT OFFICER.			GOVERNMENT REVENUE.			NUMBER OF ESTATES FOR WHICH FINAL ASSESSMENT ORDERS PASSED BY THE COMMISSIONER.			NUMBER OF ESTATES FOR WHICH KADULIYATS HAVE BEEN TAKEN.			NEW GOVERNMENT REVENUE FOR WHICH KADULIYATS HAVE BEEN EXECUTED.			INCREASE OF GOVERNMENT REVENUE AT THIS SETTLEMENT.			REMARKS.
	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	Existing.	Proposed.		To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Cuttack District.				Rs. A.	Rs. A.														
Atthanta ..	...	3	3	1,464 0	2,754 0		...	2	2										
	Contribution to chaukidari fund																		
Baragan ..	...	10	10	6,173 2	7,286 0		...	10	10										
	Contribution to chaukidari fund																		
Neulbis ..	...	3	3	1,192 0	1,832 0		...	3	3										
	Contribution to chaukidari fund																		
	For total number of estates see return XI, column of remarks.																		

Annual Return of assessment of estates approved by the Commissioner during the year ending 30th September 1897.

[illegible]

STATEMENT XII.

Comparative Statement of assets at the last Settlement and present Settlement.

DISTRICT.	Mufassal assets at last settle-ment.	Existing assets.	Present number of tenants.	NUMBER OF TENANTS DEALT WITH.			Existing assets of tenants in column 5 (a).	Settled assets of tenants in column 5 (a).	REMARKS.
				Holding directly under proprietors or proprietary tenure-holders.	Holding under intermediate tenants.	Total.			
1	2	3	4	5 (a)	5 (b)	5 (c)	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.					Rs.	Rs.	
Cuttack	11,59,000	17,00,000*	850,000†	349,907	73,875	423,782	10,05,088	11,66,071	
Balasore	6,13,000	10,25,000*	475,000	284,414	74,627	359,041	7,67,155	9,11,485	
Puri	4,82,400	5,75,000*	275,000	195,953	53,462	252,415	5,31,733	6,10,409	
Total	22,55,000	33,00,000	1,600,000	833,274	201,964	1,035,238	23,03,976	26,87,965	
Khurda in 1881 ...	...	3,02,719	225,000	170,557	19,855	190,412	2,86,812	3,52,708	
GRAND TOTAL ...	22,55,000	36,02,719	1,825,000	1,003,831	221,819	1,225,650	25,90,608	30,40,673	

* The figures in column 3 are probably inaccurate. Existing assets are expected to be not less than 35 lakhs.
† The number of tenants in column 4 for Cuttack is an overestimate.

STATEMENT XIII.

Statement showing Extension of Cultivation in temporarily-settled areas since the last Settlement.
(Khurda since 1881.)

DISTRICT.	AT LAST SETTLEMENT.			AT PRESENT SETTLEMENT.			Percentage of increase of cultivation.	REMARKS.
	Cultivated.	Uncultivated.	Total.	Cultivated.	Uncultivated.	Total.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.		
Cuttack	649,590	601,446	1,251,036	785,795	557,565	1,343,360	20.9	For Cuttack and Puri. Separate figures for cultivated and uncultivated lands in lakhraj bahal not being available, the total area of bahal has been divided into two portions, cultivated and uncultivated, in the same proportion as the cultivated and uncultivated areas of mahal lands, and have been included in columns 2 and 3 respectively. For Balasore. Figures are not now available for columns 3 and 4, 6 and 7. Revenue-paying lands only are included in columns 2 and 5. * Excludes Tapang and Haldia. In columns 2 and 3 and in 5 and 6 the figures for Balbhadrapur and Moghulbandi are included exactly as they stood in 1881, as the work is not yet complete. † Includes culturable area, 23,316.
Balasore	464,763	...	...	646,886	...	...	39.1	
Puri	337,086	293,314	630,409	441,664	182,653†	624,317	31.00	
Khurda	228,085	367,954	596,039*	255,838	328,482	584,320	12.1	

N.B.—The figures are liable to revision after the work is finished.

STATEMENT XIV.

Comparative Statement of Revenue-free Areas at the past and present Settlement.

DISTRICT.	Number of villages temporarily settled.	Number of villages for which figures are given.	AREA OF LAKHIRAJ BAHAL IN VILLAGES GIVEN IN COLUMN 3.		Variation per cent.	REMARKS.
			At last settlement.	At present settlement.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Puri	1,968	1,968	82,360.31	76,605.60	—6.9	Figures for the other districts are not yet complete.

STATEMENT XV.

Statement showing areas under valuable crops.

DISTRICT.	PAN.				SUGARCANE.				TOBACCO.				REMARKS.
	AREA.		RENT.		AREA.		RENT.		AREA.		RENT.		
	Actual.	Estimated.	Actual.	Estimated.	Actual.	Estimated.	Actual.	Estimated.	Actual.	Estimated.	Actual.	Estimated.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Cuttack	Acres. 60	Acres. ...	Rs. 1,297	Rs. ... @ Rs. 25 per acre. 2,550	Acres. 38	Acres. ...	Rs. 337	Rs. ... @ Rs. 3-2 per acre. 1,103	Acres. 517	Acres. ...	Rs. 3,407	Rs. ... @ Rs. 4-8 per acre. 3,000	Estimates have been given for Balasore except columns 2 and 6.
Balasore	102	...	...	...	353	...	...	...	...	400	...	...	
Puri	86	...	...	...	109	...	284	...	454	...	873	...	
Khurda	56	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Total	313	...	2,113	2,550	...	...	621	1,103	771	400	4,280	3,000	
			4,663				1,724		1,171		7,380		

STATEMENT XVI.

Totals of milan khasra.

1(a)	1(b)	1(c)	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10									
DISTRICT.	Total number of villages.	Number of villages for which figures are given.	Area by summation of fields.	CULTIVATED AREA.																
				By soils.					Bari.	Orchards and bamboo groves.	Total cultivated area.									
				Beali.	Sarad.	Dalua.	Dofasali area.	Baja fasal.												
Cuttack ...	4,923	3,454	1,014,220	6	13,426	2	493,487	3	13,269	0	108,447	4	38,406	8	37,231	0	15,800	8	720,158	5
Puri ...	1,968	1,968	624,317	9	5,251	6	335,151	1	16,801	2	44,384	4	14,983	6	12,103	1	13,988	8	441,664	1

DISTRICT.	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20									
	CULTIVATED AREA.	CULTURABLE AREA.					NON-CULTURABLE AREA.												
	By irrigation.	New fallow.	Old fallow.	Thatching grass.	Culturable jungle land.	Total culturable area.	House.	Unculturable waste.	Tanks and rivers.	Canals.									
	Irrigated by Canal.																		
Cuttack ...		22,666	9	14,206	4	1,423	6	6,474	1	44,771	0	7,123	5	42,172	5	79,961	8	3,594	9
Puri ...		7,280	2	8,378	3	322	7	7,334	5	23,316	9	5,604	9	40,645	7	32,993	0		

DISTRICT.	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28							
	NON-CULTURABLE AREA.							REMARKS.							
	Bunds.	Unculturable jhils.	Government roads.	Other roads.	Burning ghats.	Other kind of unculturable waste.	Total unculturable waste.								
Cuttack ...	4,936	6	5,155	2	1,695	0	6,381	6	784	7	97,485	3	249,291	1	
Puri ...	1,459	9	2,469	6	1,494	0	5,602	9	361	7	62,805	8	159,337	8	

STATEMENT XVII.

ORISSA DIVISION.

Financial Statement from 1st October 1896 to 30th September 1897.

MAIN SUB-HEADS.	Expenditure during the previous year (against each sub-head).	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Pay and special allowance of Settlement Officer ...	20,340 12 10*	1,9746 2 2	* Inclusive of travelling allowance..
Assistant Settlement Officer ...	1,04,872 11 7*	1,50,115 13 11	
2. Fixed establishment ...	12,727 7 9*	17,069 2 11	
3. Temporary establishment ...	96,674 14 7	1,65,209 9 6	
4. Contract job work ...	27,374 14 7	79,094 14 9	
5. Travelling allowance— Of officers ...	6,661 15 9†	41,395 0 2	† Balasore figures only. Cuttack and Puri figures are included in heads 1, 2, and 3.
Of establishments ...	871 10 0†	13,293 8 3	
6. Supplies and services— Tents ...	.....	3,852 0 0	
Construction of building at Bhadrak ...	.....	6,024 2 8	
7. Contingencies ...	40,437 11 1	31,169 7 6	
Unforeseen ...	.....	1,220 1 9	
Total ...	3,09,962 2 2	5,28,189 15 7	

APPENDIX III.

No. 704G.S., dated Chittagong, the 19th October 1897.

From—C. G. H. ALLEN, Esq., Settlement Officer,
To—The Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.

I HAVE the honour to submit the Annual Report of this settlement for the year ending 30th September 1897. A statement in the form of Appendix I to your report for the year ending 30th September 1896 is submitted, with the following statements:—

- (1) *Statement A.*—Showing progress made in mahalmilan;
- (2) *Statement B.*—Showing progress in fairing records;
- (3) *Statement IV.*—Showing progress in assessment;
- (4) *Statement IV(a).*—Explaining the effect of the assessment on tenants' rental;
- (5) *Statement IV(b).*—Exhibiting the resultant enhancement of the revenue;
- (6) *Form 15.*—Showing progress in publication;
- (7) *Form 15(2).*—Of objections and disputes; and
- (8) *Form 15(3).*—The Financial Statement.

2. The progress made during the year under the main heads of work is exhibited in the following statement:—

HEAD OF WORK.	Total number to be done.	NUMBER DONE.			Number remaining at the end of the year.
		Previous to year under report.	During year.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Mahal milan; villages ...	1,037	941	86	1,027	10
Tenants assessed ...	254,226	177,786	67,666	245,452	8,774
Villages finally published ...	1,037	507	260	767	270

I compare these figures with the programme submitted with my letter No. 413G.S. dated the 15th August 1896, to the Commissioner.

3. (1) *Mahal milan.*, has not been completed, as I anticipated would be the case, but the arrears of work are not serious.

(2) *Assessment.*—The number of tenants was under-estimated by 15,108, viz. 254,226—239,118, and the number of tenants assessed during the year is less than the estimate by 72,000—67,666, or 4,334, with the result that, instead of the work having been completed by the end of July 1897, the rents of nearly 9,000 tenants still remained to be settled at the end of the year under report.

(3) *Publication*, it was anticipated, would be completed by the end of the year under report, but on that date 260 villages still remained to be published. I do not now expect that this work will be completely finished before the 31st March 1898.

4. Turning now to the work of individual officers, I append a statement showing the progress made by each under the main heads of work during the year under report and the number of days spent by each on tour:—

NAMES OF OFFICER.	Villages of which Mahal milan completed.	Tenants assessed.	Villages finally published.	Objections, section 105, heard and considered.	Disputes, section 106, decided.	Number of days on tour.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Mr. C. G. H. Allen, Settlement Officer.	3	1,542	39	395	...	98
Babu D. C. Ghose, Assistant Settlement Officer.	43	17,371	70	426	8	298
Babu S. C. Das, Assistant Settlement Officer.	3	17,362	45	601	11	331
Babu H. P. Ghose, Assistant Settlement Officer.	14	10,697	51	336	18	212
Babu S. M. Talukdar, Assistant Settlement Officer.	8	10,605	21	586	...	332
Babu Annada Ch. Das, Assistant Settlement Officer.	15	10,089	34	2,352	4	350
Total ...	86	67,666	260	4,696	41	...

Babus Durga Charan Ghose and Sarat Chandra Das are to be congratulated on the steady progress shown.

5. *Effect of the assessment proceedings on the Government revenue.*—The previous rate of enhancement has been maintained, and even somewhat exceeded, during the year under report:—

		Rs.	Rs.		
The rents of 10,417 talukdars have been enhanced from	37,045	to	55,010,	or by	40 per cent.
Ditto 90 ijaradars have been reduced from	9,571	„	8,576	„	... „
Ditto 9,833 jotedars have been enhanced from	11,806	„	13,085	„	10 „
In all ... 20,340 tenants	ditto	... 58,422	„ 76,671	„	31 „

In addition, the rents of 1,995 tenants of previously unsettled lands have been settled for the first time Rs. 14,168.

The rate of enhancement is not excessive.

Taken as a whole, the new assessment imposed upon an area previously paying Rs. 3,50,940 is 5,30,121, showing an enhancement of Rs. 1,79,181, or 51 per cent. The revenue of the noabad lands previously to this settlement was Rs. 3,85,290, so that, if the present rate of enhancement be maintained to the end the increase due to the settlement will be about Rs. 1,96,500. The rate of enhancement of talukdars' rent in North Raojan is very high, and the Assistant Settlement Officer has not submitted any explanation. I will examine the enhancements when I inspect the Assistant Settlement Officer's office next week. The lands of Raojan are very fertile, and the previous rates of assessment were extraordinarily low in many cases.

6. There is nothing in statement IV(a) which calls for special remark.

7. *Movements of staff.*—I was in charge of the Collector's office in addition to my own duties from the 1st October to the 11th November 1896, and again from the 12th April to the 1st May 1897. I also officiated temporarily as Director of Land Records and Agriculture from the 23rd June to the 6th September 1897. During the latter period I paid two visits to Chittagong.

Babu Durga Charan Ghose took up assessment in a large number of villages in North-East Patia, and has recently commenced work in three large villages of the Town Circle.

Babu Sarat Chandra Das was given a new circle in South-East Patia, and he has also taken over from me the remaining assessment work of the Sangu Circle.

Babu Annada Charan Das was given the north portion of the Hathazari Circle, and also seven villages of the Town Circle. The charges of Babu Sasi Mohun Talukdar in Hathazari and of Babu Haripada Ghose in the Town Circles have been reduced to the above extent.

8. The record of 136 villages containing 292,953 plots were faired after final publication in forms, the counterpart of the original. Of these villages, 112 with 218,767 plots had been faired last year in the continuous form; these fair copies in the continuous form have been distributed to the landlords. The records of 277 villages with 508,440 plots were faired before final publication, so that altogether final fair copies of the khatians of 413 villages with 8 lakhs of plots have now been prepared. The terij of 44 villages with 110,808 plots has been prepared during the year; final terijes have now been prepared of 156 villages with 340,688 plots. Raiyats' copies of 271 villages with 6 lakhs of plots have been prepared. The khatians of noabad tenants in thana Ramu have been forwarded to the khas tahsildar. The records of thana Ramu have been faired completely and bound, and are ready for deposit in the Collector's record-room.

9. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 1,64,417-13-9, as compared with an estimated expenditure of Rs. 1,57,173, showing an increase over the estimate of Rs 7,245, but of the total expenditure, Rs. 8,248 was incurred in advance on account of pay bills for September 1897 cashed during the year.

STATEMENT A —for the year ending September 1897.

Circle.	Officers.	Total number of villages.	VILLAGES OF WHICH MAHAL MILAN HAVE BEEN COMPLETED.			Remaining.	REMARKS.
			Previous to year.	During the year.	Total.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
I.—Completed circles previous to year.		598	598	...	598	...	These are the Jaldi, Sangu, North and South Satkania, Ramu, Chakaria, Kutubdia, Teknaf Belgaon, Raojan, Fatikchhari and Mirkasera circles. (b) Revised figure.
II.—Circles in which the work is in progress—							
Maishkhal ...	C. G. H. Allen, Esq., C.S. ...	3	...	3	3	...	
Kumira ...	Babu Haripada Ghose ...	42(b)	40	2	42	...	
East Town ...	.....	9	3	5	8	1	
West Town ...	.....	16	8	7	15	1	
East Patia ...	Babu Durga Charan Ghose ...	88	63	24	87	1	
Anwara ...	.....	66	47	19	66	...	
South Town ...	.....	3	...	...	...	3	
North and South Patia.	Babu Sarat Chandra Das and Durga Charan Ghose.	110	109	1	110	...	
Rangonia ...	Babu Sarat Ch. Das ...	44	42	2	44	...	
North and South Hathazari.	Babu Annada Charan Das and Sasi Mohun Talukdar.	51	31	20	51	...	
North Town ...	Babu Annada Charan Das ...	7	...	3	3	4	
	Total ...	439	343	86	429	10	
	GRAND TOTAL ...	1,037	941(b)	86	1,027	10	

STATEMENT B.—Showing the progress in fairing records during the year ending 30th September 1897.

Total number of villages under settlement.	Number of plots.	RECORDS COPIED BEFORE PUBLICATION.				RECORDS COPIED AFTER FINAL PUBLICATION.				TERIJ PREPARED		FORM No. 20A.		FORM No. 20B.		LANDLORDS AND TENURE-HOLDERS EXTRACT OF TERIJ PREPARED.		RAIYATS' COPIES OF KHATIAN.		REMARKS.		
		Villages of which records have been received from Assistant Settlement Officers.		Records faired.		Villages of which records have been received from Assistant Settlement Officers.		Records faired for Collector's record-room.		Villages.	Plots.	Villages.	Plots.	Villages.	Plots.	Villages.	Plots.	Villages.	Plots.			
		Villages.	Plots.	Villages.	Plots.	Villages.	Plots.	Villages.	Plots.													
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
4801 About 2,700,000	Previous to year...		...	...	...	...	...	...	112(a)	218,767	112	223,880	...	...	...	...	...	...	120	263,743		
	During the year...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44	110,808	...	...	...	...	...	...	151	347,638		
	During the year...		...	...	277	503,440	...	...	...	136	292,953	156	340,688	...	...	...	...	...	...	271	611,381	
	Total		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	

(a) The figure shown in column 10 and 11 of the previous was of the records copied in continuous form. These have been since recopied in informs the counterpart of the originals, and the continuous khatians have been distributed to the landlords (of noabad mahals only).

STATEMENT IV.—Showing the Progress in Assessment for the year ending the 30th September 1897.

CIRCLE.	Name of Revenue Officer.	Area in square miles.	Total number of villages containing noabad tenants.	Total number of tenants.	COMPLETED TO END OF SEPTEMBER 1896.		DURING THE CURRENT SURVEY YEAR.		TOTAL COMPLETED.		REMAINING.		REMARKS.
					Villages.	Tenants.	Villages.	Tenants.	Villages.	Tenants.	Villages.	Tenants.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
I.—Completed circles (a).	.....	602'31	229	57,955	229	57,955	...	...	229	57,955	...	...	
II.—Circles in which the work is in progress ...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	(b)	...	...	...	...	
Sangu ...	Mr. C. G. H. Allen ...	58'54	33(b)	6,757	21	4,394	11(b)	1,579	32	5,972	1	784	
Ramu ...	Ditto ...	245'77	50	4,858(b)	48	11,146	2	212	50	11,358	...	...	
Maishkhal ...	Ditto ...	23'95	2(b)	23	...	...	2	23	2	23	...	...	
North-East Patia ...	Ditto ...	4'07(b)	9(b)	1,625(b)	...	1,417	9	208	9	1,625	...	...	
North Patia ...	Babu Sarat Chandra Das.	34'56	81	12,184(b)	8	5,990	20	5,792	28	11,782	3	402	
South Raojan ...	Ditto ...	10'94	12	3,353(b)	2	2,576	10	777	12	3,353	...	...	
Rangonia ...	Ditto ...	97'15	44	13,145	16	7,281	26	5,864	44	13,145	...	...	
South-East Patia ...	Ditto ...	28'72(b)	27(b)	4,831(b)	...	...	17	4,449	17	4,449	10	382	
South Patia ...	Babu Durga Charan Ghose.	57'54(b)	76(b)	11,784	72(b)	11,663	3	79	75	11,742	1	42	
Anwara ...	Ditto ...	39'14	66	11,624(b)	19	6,640	47	4,384	66	11,624	...	...	
North-East Patia ...	Ditto ...	66'00	52(b)	12,892	2	862	44	11,719	46	12,581	6	311	
South Town ...	Ditto ...	11'37(b)	3(b)	4,667(b)	...	...	...	589	...	589	3	4,078	
North Raojan ...	Babu Annada Charan Das.	93'37	70	18,892	63	17,014	7	1,878	70	18,892	...	...	
North Hathazari ...	Ditto ...	23'81	16(b)	7,565(b)	2	1,215	14	6,350	16	7,565	...	...	
North Town ...	Ditto ...	29'42(b)	7(b)	2,821(b)	...	...	2	1,861	2	1,861	5	960	
Fatikchari ...	Babu Sasi Mohun Talukdar.	198'62	73(b)	22,548(b)	62(b)	21,263	11	1,933	73	22,546	...	...	
South Hathazari ...	Ditto ...	60'12	35(b)	13,806(b)	4	4,399	...	9,322	30	13,722	5	85	
Mirkaserai ...	Babu Haripada Ghose	109'16	126	19,142	112	18,269	13	728	125	18,997	1	145	
Kumira ...	Ditto ...	94'51	42(b)	7,485(b)	29	5,702	13	1,783	42	7,485	...	...	
East Town ...	Ditto ...	12'51(b)	9(b)	4,845(b)	...	...	2	4,415	2	4,415	7	430	
West Town ...	Ditto ...	21'42(b)	16(b)	4,926(b)	...	...	9	3,771	9	3,771	7	1,155	
Total	...	1,320'69(b)	799	196,271	462	119,831	288	67,666	750	187,497	49	8,774	
GRAND TOTAL	...	1,923' (b)	1,028	254,226	691	177,786	288	67,666	979	245,452	49	8,774	

(a) These are Jaldi, Belgaon, North and South Satkania, Chakaria, Teknaf and Kutubdia Circles.

(b) Revised figures.

(c) Four villages with 480 tenants were done by Babu Sarat Chandra Das, Assistant Settlement Officer.

STATEMENT IV(a).—Showing effect of assessment on tenants' rental.

FIGURES FOR THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	CIRCLE.	TENANTS WHO FORMERLY PAID RENT.												EFFECT OF ASSESSMENT ON RAIYATS' RENTALS.				TENANTS WHO FORMERLY PAID NO RENT.		REMARKS.
		Under-tenure-holders.			Percentage of net increase.	Raiyats, including non-bad jotedars.			Percentage of net increase.	Under-raiyats.			Percentage of net increase.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase due to—		Number.	Rent.	
		Number.	Old rent.	New rent.		Number.	Old rent.	New rent.		Number.	Old rent.	New rent.				Increase of area.	Enhancement of rate.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Mr. C. G. H. Allen	Maikhal ...	...	...	...	...	10	3,392	3,635	7	4	299	299	...	248	...	248	...	7	2,534	
Ditto	Ramu ...	...	...	...	...	13	260	267	27	31	397	312	2	48	...	58	...	167	3,324	
Ditto	Sangu ...	4	38	116	18	653	2,124	2,140	...	349	1,015	871	...	16	...	16	...	484	3,630	
Ditto	North-East Patia ...	...	...	...	...	106	167	181	...	19	32	32	...	14	...	14	...	24	51	
Babu D. C. Ghose	South Patia ...	...	...	...	...	59	958	998	4	12	46	52	13	49	...	40	...	...	...	
Ditto	Anwara ...	84	352	534	52	3,172	4,902	5,062	3	372	446	492	10	180	...	131	19	46	59	
Ditto	North-East Patia ...	3	3	5	67	8,279	14,827	15,430	4	970	1,464	1,624	4	656	...	411	147	263	223	
Ditto	South Town ...	...	...	...	...	575	1,763	1,763	...	7	9	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Babu A. C. Das	North Raojan ...	96	559	766	35	1,080	5,194	5,694	10	534	1,284	1,349	5	490	...	490	...	48	32	
Ditto	North Hathazari ...	290	796	1,080	37	4,322	3,964	4,721	29	674	348	384	11	737	...	737	...	63	61	
Ditto	North Town ...	6	9	12	33	1,420	534	1,016	9	283	292	213	3	81	...	81	...	...	...	
Babu S. C. Das	North Patia ...	67	266	361	35	3,983	4,670	5,172	10	791	845	949	12	562	...	332	170	582	748	
Ditto	South Raojan ...	9	63	91	46	389	437	516	20	205	271	224	8	59	...	59	...	33	79	
Ditto	Rangoia ...	197	2,171	2,336	30	3,523	7,881	9,237	17	820	1,534	1,695	3	1,345	...	906	446	617	1,109	
Ditto	South-East Patia ...	40	394	397	30	2,396	2,535	2,785	9	929	1,011	1,042	3	250	...	202	48	431	703	
Babu S. M. Talukdar	Fatikehari ...	192	1,954	2,316	44	618	2,167	2,560	8	146	167	157	...	219	36	319	...	243	215	
Ditto	South Hathazari ...	53	358	433	20	6,606	6,064	6,335	4	806	983	983	...	298	25	298	...	1	590	
Babu H. P. Ghose	Mirkaserai ...	1	5	8	69	349	705	933	52	147	173	177	2	229	1	52	177	232	5,174	
Ditto	Kumira ...	1	2	2	...	1,193	1,308	1,332	10	324	174	181	4	134	20	106	35	178	362	
Ditto	East Town ...	15	71	98	38	2,713	3,346	3,484	4	687	574	691	3	141	3	79	62	290	130	
Ditto	West Town ...	7	30	40	33	2,600	3,807	3,680	2	458	257	265	3	75	2	25	58	141	91	
	Total	960	7,039	9,694	35	43,247	70,499	76,110	7	5,484	11,343	11,691	2	8,098	87	4,523	1,175	4,468	19,286	

STATEMENT IV (b).—Showing the effect of assessment on the Government Revenue for the year ending 30th September 1897.

Circles.	Name of Revenue Officer.	TALUKDARS.			Percentage of net Increase.	LYARADARS.			Percentage of net Increase.	JOTEDARS PAYING DIRECT.			Percentage of net Increase.	TENANTS WHO FORMERLY PAID NO RENT.			Total.			Increase.	Decrease.	Net Increase.	Percentage of net Increase.	REMARKS.
		Number.	Old rent.	New rent.		Number.	Old rent.	New rent.		Number.	Old rent.	New rent.		Number.	Rent.	Number.	Old rent.	New rent.						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
I.—Total of previous year		20,707	1,60,796	2,67,144	66	267	31,258	23,765	11	29,111	1,10,464	1,38,731	25	3,752	9,642	63,827	2,92,518	4,39,282	1,47,664	900	1,46,764	50		• These are revised figures.
II.—During the year																								
Ramu	Mr. C. G. H. Allen	1	14	14	14	...	...	...	...	...	10	122	124	1	2	2,427	13	136	2,565	2,429	...	2,429	...	
Maikhal	Ditto	2	2,904	3,723	28	...	...	...	...	...	3	701	701	...	2	2,534	12	2,605	3,353	3,353	...	3,353	...	
Sangu	Ditto	88	1,048	1,327	45	1	414	350	...	...	181	281	274	...	69	1,637	329	1,744	3,788	2,044	...	2,044	...	
North-East Patia	Ditto	59	4,859	5,182	41	...	...	...	...	...	25	22	24	9	10	215	94	151	219	77	...	77	...	
Fatikchhari	Ditto	83	4,859	5,657	17	...	...	...	...	...	220	672	666	13	233	213	547	6,417	6,572	1,170	...	1,170	...	
South Hathazari	Ditto	1,289	2,756	3,961	42	...	...	...	...	...	1,693	1,841	2,090	13	580	597	3,550	5,194	7,227	2,035	...	2,035	...	
North Patia	Ditto	1,367	2,665	4,116	60	...	...	...	...	...	1,934	1,114	1,261	13	237	344	3,715	5,761	7,227	2,046	...	2,046	...	
South Raojan	Ditto	93	395	466	52	...	...	...	...	...	150	214	214	18	30	206	206	721	721	...	...	...	...	
Rangonia	Ditto	593	4,701	7,447	49	...	...	...	...	...	191	1,365	882	14	314	745	1,556	7,069	10,436	3,417	...	3,417	...	
South-East Patia	Ditto	745	1,789	2,680	49	...	...	...	...	...	615	754	832	13	191	727	1,556	2,566	3,876	1,310	...	1,310	...	
South-East Patia	Ditto	6	245	1,320	...	...	...	...	...	...	288	391	332	...	41	4,760	31	7,747	12,564	6,877	...	6,877	...	
South-East Patia	Ditto	163	685	1,437	47	...	...	...	...	...	306	1,305	1,337	20	21	2,610	154	2,083	2,557	1,068	...	1,068	...	
South-East Patia	Ditto	708	1,496	2,194	49	...	...	...	...	...	312	253	253	2	8	1,880	1,880	2,357	734	734	...	734	...	
South-East Patia	Ditto	562	1,582	2,362	58	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,677	793	793	...	793	...	
South-East Patia	Ditto	8	60	95	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32	32	...	...	...	...	
South-East Patia	Ditto	2,201	4,002	5,832	46	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,769	6,782	2,023	...	2,023	...	
South-East Patia	Ditto	1,264	4,169	6,883	41	46	350	352	57	510	406	440	8	21	30	1,841	4,916	6,705	1,789	...	1,789	...		
Anwar	Ditto	7	185	552	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	69	83	...	...	...	...	
South Town	Ditto	131	185	552	183	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	351	758	405	...	405	...	
North Raojan	Ditto	894	3,225	5,473	70	1	...	...	...	...	1,335	1,004	1,170	17	68	...	2,313	4,266	6,779	2,513	...	2,513	...	
North Hathazari	Ditto	163	279	417	49	...	...	...	...	...	534	825	355	9	...	...	2,817	6,04	7,779	1,168	...	1,168	...	
Total	Total	10,417	37,045	55,010	40	90	9,571	8,576	...	9,853	11,806	13,085	10	1,966	14,168	22,336	58,422	90,839	33,506	1,089	32,417	55		
GRAND TOTAL	GRAND TOTAL	31,124	1,97,841	3,22,154	62	347	30,829	32,341	4	38,944	1,22,270	1,51,816	24	5,748	23,810	76,163	3,50,940	6,30,121	1,81,170	1,989	1,79,181	51		

FORM 15.—Revised, showing progress in publication of the records for the year ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Circle.	Number of villages.	Area of the circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT PUBLISHED.			NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED.			REMARKS.
				Previous to year.	During the year.	Total.	Previous to year.	During the year.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
I.—Completed circles(a)		233	602'31	233	...	233	233	...	233	(a) These are the Jaldi, Belgauon, Teknaf, Chauraria, Kutubdia, and North and South Satkania Circles.
II.—Circles partially published		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mr. C. G. H. Allen	N. E. Patia	9	4'07	7	3	9	...	6	6	
Ditto	Sangu	33	58'51	11	21	32	...	28	48	
Ditto	Maishkhal	3	23'05	...	3	3	...	3	3	
Ditto	Ramu	50	245'77	48	2	50	48	2	50	
Babu S. M. Talukdar	Fatikchhari	74	198'62	59	15	74	46	12	58	
Ditto	South Hathazari	35	60'12	...	29	29	...	9	9	
" A. C. Das	North Raojan	70	93'37	48	22	70	33	28	61	
Ditto	Hathazari	18	23'81	...	16	16	...	6	6	
" S. C. Das	North Patia	31	34'56	...	28	28	...	16	16	
Ditto	South Raojan	12	10'04	...	12	12	...	7	7	
Ditto	Rangonia	44	97'15	...	44	44	...	23	22	
Ditto	S. E. Patia	27	28'72	...	6	6	...	...	...	
" H. P. Ghose	Mirserai	126	109'16	114	12	126	78	24	102	
Ditto	Kumira	42	94'15	17	25	42	4	27	31	
Ditto	West Town	16	21'42	...	8	8	...	...	...	
" D. C. Ghose	South Patia	79	57'54	73	4	77	65	10	75	
Ditto	Anwara	68	39'14	...	68	68	...	60	60	
Ditto	N. E. Patia	53	66'00	...	34	34	...	...	...	
Total		785	1,267'39	877	319	726	274	260	534	
III.—Circles not commenced(b)		19	53'30	...	...	...	...	...	...	(b) These are North, South and East Town Circles.
GRAND TOTAL		1,037	1,923'00	610	319	959	507	260	767	

FORM 15(2).—Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Objections under Section 105 and Disputes under Section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act for the year ending 30th September 1897.

Name of Revenue Officer.	NATURE OF CASE.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF.			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.				
		Up to the end of the previous month, including cases pending on 30th September of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending on 30th September of preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—		
											Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Mr. C. G. H. Allen	(1) Objections, section 105, Bengal Tenancy Act.	1,892	315	2,207	1,706	395	2,101	106	...	...	...	...	...
	(2) Suits section 106, Bengal Tenancy Act.	168	...	168	168	...	168	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total	2,060	315	2,375	1,874	395	2,269	106	...	...	...	...	...
Babu Durga Charan Ghose.	(1) Objections heard and considered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act.	1,301	456	1,757	1,301	426	1,727	30	...	...	...	...	...
	(2) Dispute, section 106, Bengal Tenancy Act.	189	2	191	181	8	189	2	1	1	1	...	...
	Total	1,490	458	1,948	1,482	434	1,916	32	1	1	1	...	...
Babu Sarat Chandra Das.	(1) Objections, section 105, Bengal Tenancy Act.	3,127	634	3,761	3,127	601	3,728	33	...	...	...	...	...
	(2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	105	8	113	102	11	113	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total	3,232	642	3,874	3,229	612	3,841	33	...	...	...	...	...
Babu Haripada Ghose	(1) Objection, section 105, Bengal Tenancy Act.	337	336	642	303	336	639	8	...	...	...	...	...
	(2) Disputes, section 106, Bengal Tenancy Act.	38	20	56	32	18	50	6	...	...	...	...	...
	Total	373	323	698	335	354	689	9	...	...	...	...	...
Babu Annada Charan Das.	(1) Objections, section 105, Bengal Tenancy Act.	1,819	2,129	3,948	1,509	2,352	3,861	87	...	...	...	...	...
	(2) Disputes, section 106, Bengal Tenancy Act	1	3	4	...	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total	1,820	2,132	3,952	1,509	2,356	3,865	87	...	...	...	...	...
Babu Sasi Talukdar.	(1) Objections, section 105, Bengal Tenancy Act.	2,553	436	2,994	2,307	586	2,983	11	...	...	...	...	...
	(2) Disputes, section 106, Bengal Tenancy Act.	4	...	4	4	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total	2,562	436	2,998	2,401	586	2,987	11	...	...	...	...	...
	(1) Objections, section 105, Bengal Tenancy Act.	11,034	4,275	15,309	10,343	4,696	15,039	270	...	...	...	...	...
	(2) Dispute, section 106, Bengal	503	33	536	487	41	528	8	1	1	1	...	...
	Total	11,537	4,308	15,845	10,830	4,737	15,667	278	1	1	1	...	...

FORM 15(3).—Settlement Officer's Annual Financial Statement ending 30th September 1897.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment (against each sub-head).	Expenditure to end of the previous year (against each sub-head) for survey year 1895-96.	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head) for survey year 1897-98.	Balance remaining (against each sub-head).
1	2	3	4	5
1. Pay and special allowance of—				
Settlement Officer ...	19,350	19,063 4 9	12,303 14 1	
Assistant Settlement Officer ...	9,000	15,979 4 5	16,496 4 2	
2. Fixed establishment ...	24,954	46,329 15 5	48,589 9 0	
3. Temporary establishment ...				
4. Contract and job work ...	28,372	37,174 7 3	56,393 7 2	
5. Travelling allowance—				
Of officers ...	6,300	7,863 2 0	7,345 12 0	
Of establishment ...	6,015	11,095 11 0	12,582 5 9	
6. Supplies and services—				
Forms ...		.....	.....	
Tents ...		222 8 0	.....	
Petty construction ...		1,328 2 6	1,364 5 3	
„ repairs ...		327 13 6	1,187 6 11	
7. Contingencies—				
Hot-weather charges ...	6,316	112 1 0	127 0 0	
Office rent ...		110 13 11	110 0 0	
Service telegrams ...		42 11 0	162 8 0	
„ postage charges ...		1,494 13 6	1,589 13 5	
Miscellaneous ...		7,138 3 3	7,145 8 0	
Total ...	1,00,307	1,48,282 15 6	1,64,417 13 9	

APPENDIX IV.

Remarks by the Deputy Commissioner of Palamau on the Annual Report on the Palamau Government Estates' Settlement for the year ending 30th September 1897, submitted by Mr. D. Sunder, Settlement Officer.

Paragraph 6 of Mr. Sunder's Report.—The "Ferists" do not contain all particulars of the khatian as stated by Mr. Sunder. Please see my No. 914R., dated 14th September 1897, submitting a revised form of "patta" for adoption. Mr. Sunder gives no reasons for 50 "Ferists" remaining unissued.* This should have been done.

* He states that the tenants were absent from their homes.

W. C. M.

Paragraph 7 of Mr. Sunder's Report.—It is very doubtful whether Mr. Sunder has carried out the orders of Government in the matter of making "protected" Forests. The Conservator of Forests, Bengal, and I, came to the conclusion, after examining this question, that he had not done so. This matter will be looked into during the ensuing cold weather.

I do not think that Mr. Sunder wished to keep back anything. He was speaking of rents proper. I understand that the question of remission of the rents for trees for the year 1896-97 has been under the Commissioner's consideration.

W. C. M.

= 17,819.

Paragraph 23 of Mr. Sunder's Report.—Mr. Sunder has not stated facts when he says "that the balance is chiefly due from prosperous Brahmans, Rajputs, Kayesthas, and others, who are well able to pay, and would have easily done so, but took advantage of the proclamation of famine in the district, and withheld payment, knowing that certificates would not be issued against them." I have made enquiries and found that this is not true. There may be a few, but only a very few, so called well-to-do people amongst the defaulters, the rest are all ordinary raiyats. Again, I don't quite know what Mr. Sunder means by saying "took advantage of the proclamation of famine in the district." He surely does not mean to imply that there was no scarcity and no distress, for no one knows better than he does how great was the scarcity and how deep the distress, for he was one of the officers employed on famine relief works.

I must record here that the greatest sufferers during the late distressed period were the raiyats in the Government estate, *i.e.*, those very raiyats who paid up their kists in full or nearly in full in October 1896 and January 1897, and for which payments Mr. Sunder takes much credit to himself, and refers to his settlement as being a complete success. The raiyats appear to have parted with all their belongings in order to pay the Government rent according to Mr. Sunder's new settlement, and had in the end to come to me to borrow largely to enable them to exist and to carry on their agricultural pursuits. I have shown in a recent report No. 290F., dated 8th October 1897, to you, that out of Rs. 23,000 advanced under the Agriculturists' Loans Act, over Rs. 18,000 were advanced to Government raiyats, and I have now to add that the major portion of the Rs. 15,000 given away as loans and gifts from the Charitable Relief Fund were given also to Government raiyats. It is a strange circumstance that whilst the zamindars of the district have been able to realize very little in the way of rents from their tenants, the Government, who as a rule is a more merciful landlord, realized so much. Undoubtedly, either pressure or inducement was brought to bear on the Government raiyats, but in what shape or from what direction I have not been able to ascertain. This, however, is clear, that no steps were taken by the Deputy Commissioner's office. I wonder whether the issuing of "Ferists" had anything to do with this matter.

Paragraph 25 of Mr. Sunder's Report.—The work of making over records to the district record-room is slowly progressing. The settlement office was to have been wound up by the 1st of September, but here we are in the middle of October, and it is not wound up yet.

R. H. RENNY,

The 15th October 1897.

Deputy Commissioner, Palamau.

No. 1047R., dated Daltonganj, the 21st October 1897.

Memo. by—R. H. RENNY, Esq., Deputy Commissioner, Palamau.

Copy forwarded to the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal, for information.

No. 129, dated Daltonganj, the 6th October 1897.

From—DONALD SUNDER, Esq., Settlement Officer, Palamau,

To—The Deputy Commissioner, Palamau.

REFERRING to Circular No. 45S., of 1st September 1897, of the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal, I have the honour to forward the following Annual Report on the settlement operations in the Palamau Government estate for the year ending 30th September 1897.

2. The estate comprises 399 villages which are situated in groups of from 2 to 30 villages in 18 tuppas of Palamau district. In my report for last year, 400 villages were mentioned; but under the orders of the Divisional Commissioner, one village, viz., chak Chapperdagga, covering 109.98 acres of land, which was claimed by Government, but is in possession of a jagirdar, has been excluded from settlement pending result of a civil suit which Government contemplates instituting for the purpose of obtaining possession.

3. *Notification order sanctioning the operations.*—Government of Bengal Notification No. 2725L.R., dated 1st August 1893 ordered the operations. The settlement was conducted under the provisions of Act VIII (B.O.) of 1879.

4. *Area under Survey and Settlement, Palamau.*—The area of the 399 villages for which a record of rights has been framed is 181,050 acres or 283 square miles. The area actually measured by the Survey Department is 188,160 acres or 294 square miles; but this includes 109 98 acres of mauza, Chak Chupperdagga, tuppa Goawal, which has been excluded from settlement as mentioned above, and 11 square miles of jagir or revenue-free land which are not under settlement. The number of plots or fields measured within the villages under settlement is 161,352.

5. *Settlement staff of Officers and distribution of Work.*—I was in charge of the settlement throughout the year. Babu Rameshar Parsad, who was my Assistant, helped me up to 10th October, after which he proceeded on leave. His services were made over for khas tahsil office work on 23rd October 1896.

6. In paragraph 13 of my annual report for last year I explained that Ferist was granted to the raiyats or assamis of the estate by Mr. Forbes in last settlement and is looked upon by them as an authority from Government to hold and cultivate their lands during the period of the settlement. It is in fact, considered by them equivalent to a lease or patta, and without Ferists they would have been dissatisfied and would also have declined to pay the rent when due. It is a statement showing details of the lands in each holding, together with the revenue payable therefor during the term of the settlement. *In fact, it contains all particulars of the khatian and j. mabandi.* Up to end of September 1896, I had issued 11,206 Ferists, and the year under report opened with 490 remaining to be issued. Of these, 2 Ferists relating to mauza Chak Chupperdagga, tuppa Goawal, which has been excluded from settlement under the Divisional Commissioner's orders as explained above, have been cancelled. Four hundred and thirty-eight Ferists were issued by me during the year under report and 50 remained to be issued. These relate to absent raiyats.

7. With the exception of the Durga Puja vacation period of 11th to 22nd October 1896, I was employed, during October in issuing Ferists and supplying information to assamis who had desired to see the jamabandis, &c. In November, 1896, besides this work, I was engaged, at your request, in making famine enquiries, and in December, while doing settlement work, I also revised boundaries of 21 villages according to the instructions contained in Government order No. 3916 (Land Revenue), dated 14th August 1895, and formed eleven blocks of protected forest, as mentioned in my progress report for December 1896. In January 1897, in addition to my settlement duties, I was employed under the Divisional Commissioner's orders in making famine enquiries, and from 14th February to 17th July 1897 inclusive, I did famine work, with settlement work. I returned to head-quarters in very poor health on the afternoon of the 17th July, when I was relieved of famine works, and from then up to end of the year attended to the closing of the settlement and writing of my final report.

8. *Assessment of the Land Revenue.*—The rates at which the new rents have been assessed are practically the same as those of last settlement, and were sanctioned in Government, Revenue Department, order No. 77T.R., of 29th April 1897, in which the Lieutenant-Governor approved of the settlement being made on the *uttakar* system under which rent is paid for every bigha of land within a tenant's holding, the *pariadari* system, under which up-land was not assessed, being abolished in those villages in which this system was followed in last settlement.

9. Particulars of the assessment on the new basis are given in the following statement and in the appendices to this report. The final figures are supplied in these statements:—

CLASSIFICATION OF LANDS.	Area by survey.	Area by old survey.	Irrigated.	Irrigable, but not irrigated.	DETAILS OF TENANTS AND OCCUPANTS.							
					Class of tenants.	Number of tenancies.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class.	Aggregate area of cultivated land for holding.	RENT.		Number of tenancies for which rents were settled.	Average rent of cultivated area per acre.
									Before settlement.	According to settlement.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Cultivated lands—	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.			A. D.	A. D.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.
Dhankhet ...	13,888 83	10,455 89	8,056 07	.....	Settled raiyats. Resident	3,875	27,675 84	7 23	23,914 6 11	31,702 11 0	3,526	1 1 11
Bhita ...	42,389 68	7,006 88	194 47	.....	Non-resident	1,134	11,703 90	9 99	10,918 6 5	15,245 0 0	1,177	1 5 8
					Occupancy raiyats. Resident	1,862	5,362 24	3 21	6,228 6 2	8,101 10 0	1,424	1 5 6
					Non-resident	695	2,604 26	4 20	2,754 11 9	3,815 9 0	633	1 7 2
Total cultivated	56,278 51	17,465 77	8,250 54	.....								
Cultivated, i.e.—					Non-occupancy raiyats. Resident	3,593	10,642 22	2 97	8,096 10 5	9,018 9 0	3,112	0 13 6
New fallow ...	7,110 04	.....	308 04	.....	Non-resident	1,883	6,373 40	3 38	5,708 8 5	6,546 3 0	1,824	1 0 8
Old fallow ...	42,863 06	20,201 84	.....	.....	A. Service tenures	234	402 96	1 72	.....	.....	.....	.....
Groves, &c. ...	150 52	.....	.....	.....	B. Chaukidari	7	10 32	1 54	.....	.....	.....	.....
					C. Others	51	116 40	2 28	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total cultivable	50,123 62	20,201 84	308 04	.....	Total	13,244	65,492 13	.....	57,693 2 1	74,432 10 0	11,696	.....
Non-cultivable—												
Sites of houses	553 69	97 34	.....	.....	Shikmi or under-raiyats	2,519	2,977 24	1 18	5,906 14 6	.....	.....	.....
Do. of temples	0 40	.....	.....	.....								
Rivers, tanks, &c.	8,148 37	.....	.....	.....								
Roads, &c.	65,946 71	.....	.....	.....								
Total non-cultivable	74,648 17	97 34	.....	.....								
Total of village	181,050 30	37,764 96	8,558 58	.....								

10. The increase in cultivation since last settlement is 202 per cent. In *Dhankhet* alone, it is 32 per cent. and in *Bhita*, 504 per cent.

11. The number of raiyats at last settlement was 5,476, whereas now, exclusive of 292 rent-free holders, it is 12,952.

12. Extension in irrigation has been great. The number of ahras or reservoirs at last settlement was 148 only, whereas now it is 1,097, in addition to 149 masonry and 512 kutchha wells.

13. The following statement exhibits the former and present recorded rentals of the estates :—

Former rent, <i>i.e.</i> , rent by last settlement.	Attested rent.	Percentage of increase in attested rent on former rent.	Present rent, <i>i.e.</i> , rent by present settlement.	PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE IN PRESENT RENT ON—	
				Rent by last settlement.	Attested rent.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Rs. 40,842 A. P. 8 1	Rs. 57,693 A. P. 2 1	41	Rs. 74,432 A. P. 10 0	82	29

14. The increase in the rent by present settlement is simply due to extended cultivation.

15. The rent is paid in three kists as shown below :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Four-anna kist (28th October)	19,500	0	0
Eight-anna kist (28th January)	36,553	0	0
Four-anna kist (28th March)	18,380	0	0
Total	74,433	0	0

16. Beside rent of land, Mahua trees were also assessed, as directed in Government order No. 3292 of 17th August 1896 ; after distributing these trees, two per raiyat in the northern tappas and four in the southern tappas, rent-free.

The result is as follows :—

MAHUA TREES.

Rent free.	Rent paying.	Rent.
1	2	3
12,047	18,372	Rs. 3,269 A. P. 12 0

The settlement of Mahua trees has been made for the term of the settlement, viz., 15 years.

17. Palas and Kussum lac-bearing trees have also been assessed ; Palas at 2 annas a tree and Kussum at 6 annas a tree in the northern tappas, and the former at 1 anna a tree, and the latter at 4 annas a tree, in the southern tappas. The settlement of these trees was made for one year only, as ordered in Government of Bengal, Revenue Department, letter No. 3292 of 17th August 1896.

The result of assessment is shown below :—

LAC-BEARING TREES.

1	2	3
Palas.	Kussum.	Rent.
84,271	7,985	Rs. 10,087 A. P. 5 0

18. The total increase of revenue obtained by this settlement is Rs. 46,947, which is made up as follows :—

	Rs.
By land rent	33,590
By Mahua trees	3,270
By Palas and Kussum trees	10,087
Total	46,947

19. *Publication of records.*—I mentioned in paragraph 13 of my annual report for last year that the jamabandis of the villages dealt with were published within October 1896 in the following form.

Extract from Jamabandi of mauza , tappa , Palamau district, published under the provisions of section 9, Act VIII (B.C.) of 1879, for the information of all raiyats of the mauza, with the intimation that the original jamabandi is open for inspection in the office of the Settlement Officer, Palamau, at Daltonganj, where it can be seen between the hours of 11 A.M. and 5 P.M. daily, except Sundays.

Serial number.	Name, percentage, caste and residence of tenants.	Khasra number of plots.	LAND AS ASCERTAINED IN THE PRESENT SURVEY.								Total area of tenancy.	Former rent.	New rent settled.	Clauses or Clauses of section 6, Act VIII (B.C.) of 1879, under which rent has been enhanced.				Rent payable for trees.	Total rent payable.	REMARKS.
			Rent-paying area.				Non-rent-paying area.													
			Dhankhet.	Bhita.	Garden.	Total.	Homestead.		Other kinds if any.											
							House.	Bari.												
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
			A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.					Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		

20. The publication was made at the bhandars of the Thikadars, and where there were no bhandars, at places selected with reference to the raiyat's abode, *i.e.*, in places where most of them were to be found, as ordered by the Divisional Commissioner.

21. *Appeals.*—There were none against the assessment. There were two objections against the classification of soil, as made by the survey amins. The objectors wished that I should test the classification myself. This had been previously done by Babu Ramesher Prasad, Assistant Settlement Officer. I did so and reported accordingly to the Divisional Commissioner, who thereafter rejected both the objections. I may mention that in this village the rates at which the new rent was assessed are slightly lower than those of last settlement.

22. In accordance with Government order No. 3292 (Land Revenue) of 17th August 1896, the increased rentals took effect from September 1896, the beginning of the Fasli year which is current in Palamau. The following statement shows the demand of the estate for 1896-97, as also the rent collected and the uncollected balance :—

1896-97.			Percentage of collection.
Demand.	Collection.	Balance.	
1	2	3	4
Rs. 74,433	Rs. 62,972	Rs. 11,461	86

23. The balance is chiefly due from prosperous Brahmans, Rajputs, Kayesths and others, who are well able to pay and would have easily done so; but they took advantage of the proclamation of famine in the district and withheld payment, knowing that certificates would not be issued against them. Nevertheless, I submit it that the result of collection of the rent on the new basis is very satisfactory. Babu Ramesher Prasad, Sub-Deputy Collector and Tahsildar, informs me that the collection was made without any hitch or trouble or pressure of any kind. The raiyats came to Daltonganj and paid up as soon as the kists of rent became due.

24. *Cost with statements.*—The cost of the settlement operations during the year was Rs. 7,650. Details are supplied in Appendix III of this report. The cost of the settlement operations from the beginning up to the end of the year under report was Rs. 43,436 as shewn in Appendix IV.

The attested rent was realized from the raiyats during the year 1895-96 and the rent by present settlement during 1896-97. Therefore the cost of the settlement has already been paid.

25. *Work remaining to be done.*—The work of making over records to the records-room of your office was begun on 14th September and was continued up to 29th September, when the Durga Puja vacation began. On the re-opening of your office after the vacation, the remaining records, &c., will be made over and the settlement operations will be closed in Palamau.

26. *Statements.*—The usual statement, as also the one called for by the Director in his circular No. 458. of 1st September 1897, are appended hereto.

APPENDIX III.

Annual financial statement for the year ending 30th September 1897.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Expendi- ture during the survey year 1894-95.	Expendi- ture for the survey year 1895-96.	Expendi- ture for the survey year 1896-97.	Expendi- ture from April to September 1897.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1. Pay and special allowance of Settlement Officer.	4,947	5,989	2,958	2,500	
2. Pay and special allowance of Assistant Settlement Officer.	1,200	1,200	175	....	
3. Fixed establishment ...	5,406	1,187	1,127	948	
4. Variable establishment ...		5,920	2,178		
5. Travelling allowance of officers of establishment.		732	242		
6. Contingencies ...	3,330	952	970	84	
Total ...	15,842	15,980	7,650	3,831	

APPENDIX IV.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Expendi- ture for the financial year 1893-94.	Expendi- ture for the financial year 1894-95.	Expendi- ture for the financial year 1895-96.	Expendi- ture for the financial year 1896-97.	Expendi- ture from April to September 1897.	Total expendi- ture.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Pay and special allowance of Settlement Officer ...	.....	1,947	6,000	6,663	2,500	17,110	
2. Pay and special allowance of Assistant Settlement Officer ...							
3. Fixed establishment ...		3,631	9,265	4,543	948	18,387	
4. Variable establishment ...	.....	463	905	592	299	2,259	
5. Travelling allowance of officers of estab- lishment ...		1,747	1,051	986	84	4,290	
6. Contingencies ...		564	690	.....	.....	1,254	
7. Cost of forms ...	2	.....	86	48	.....	136	
8. Cost of stationery ...							
Total ...	424	8,352	17,997	12,832	3,831	43,436	

APPENDIX V.

*Statement showing the statistics of rent of tenants as recorded in the khatians from the commence-
ment of the operations.*

CLASS OF CULTIVATION.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LANDS.					REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class.	Average area of cultivated lands per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per cultivated acre.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Settled raiyats	5,009	39,379.74	7.86	46,947 11 0	1 3 0	
2. Occupancy rai- yats.	2,467	8,566.50	3.47	11,920 3 0	1 6 3	
3. Non-occupancy rai-yats.	5,476	17,015.71	3.10	15,564 12 0	0 14 7	
4. Rent-free hold- ers.	292	530.18	1.81	.....	.....	
Total ...	13,244	65,492.13	.....	74,432 10, 0	.....	

D. SUNDER,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX V.

No. 285, dated Siliguri, the 27th September 1897.

From—BABU SASI BHUSAN DATTA, Settlement Officer, Darjeeling Terai,
To—The Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling.

WITH reference to Circular No. 45S., of 1st instant, from the Director of Land Records, Bengal, forwarded with your memorandum No. 838G., of 9th idem, I have the honor to submit the following annual report on the progress of survey and settlement of Darjeeling Terai for the year ending 30th September 1897.

2. The notification affecting the survey and settlement operations, together with the particulars of tract under settlement, were mentioned in paragraphs 4 and 3 of my report for the survey year 1895-96.

3. Survey, record-writing and attestation having been completed previous to the year under report, I have very little to add in these connections. The proposal for resurvey of three grants bearing tauzi Nos. 261, 862 and 864 situated in hill portion of the district, was abandoned under Government letter No. 1620L.R., of 16th April 1897, as no enhancement is expected therefrom. The Siliguri Bazar, which was left out by the Survey Party, is the only block that came under survey this year. It contains 41.77 acres and 130 plots. The attestation of Dum-Dum, Mohorgang and Manjha Tea Estates are still pending, as their managers have declined to sign the survey records until the short area of their estate is accounted for. Dum-Dum has preferred an appeal before the Board of Revenue, and Mohorgang has filed objection before the Deputy Commissioner against the encroachment of Atal and Forest Department respectively.

4. I was in charge of this settlement throughout the year, and was on tour for 22 days for making local investigation.

5. *Assessment.*—The principal work I was employed with during the year is the assessment and preparation of various statements in connection with it. The jotedars of the Terai as a body have been treated as rayats with a right of occupancy, as was done at the last settlement. An attempt was made to convert some of the larger holders, who sublet whole or greater portion of their land, into tenure-holders, but as the origin of tenancy could not be ascertained to support the proposal, it was abandoned. Under section 5 of Act VIII of 1879, the Government has sanctioned certain soil rates increasing the existing rates on cultivated area other than under tea, on the ground of rise in price under clause 3 of section 6 of said Act, and maintaining the other rates as no other grounds proved suitable. The assessment on these sanctioned rates, though it produces but a moderate enhancement generally, led to an increase of 100 to 300 per cent in some jotes. A reference was accordingly made to the higher authorities for consideration of high assessment, whereupon the Government, in letter No. 2085L.R., of 16th July 1897, has fixed the limit of enhancement to be 50 per cent. above the rent now paid. The assessment was modified agreeably to that order. In 168 jotes the application of new rates proved reduction of rent and the existing rents were maintained therein. The general result of the new assessment would be an enhancement of Rs. 17,882 or 22 per cent. over the existing revenue. Under the contract stipulation laid down in clause 5 of thirty years' lease, only Rs. 110 has been obtained as increase in 12 blocks of grant which have been cultivated with ordinary crops. There are 8 private markets established at the expense of jotedars. The assessment of these hats with the present owners will be taken up in hand on receipt of Government order.

6. *Publication of jamabandi.*—Soon after the completion of assessment on the sanctioned rates, the jamabandies were duly published under section 9 of Act VIII of 1879 by depositing copies thereof in the office of the Siliguri Deputy Collectorate and in the office of the Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling where the rents for the jotes and grants are paid, and by serving notices by beat of drum in each mauza. The contents of the jamabandies, names of jotedars, their interest, area and new rent have been explained to the jotedars, who were also allowed free access to the records in my office. As the publication of jamabandies were made within the first six months of the year of the era, viz., on 3rd and 5th March, 19th and 16th June and 9th July 1897, the new demand at the enhanced rate would take effect from the beginning of financial year 1897-98.

7. *Objection against assessment.*—After the publication of jamabandi, 57 objections were filed before me. Of these, 12 are against measurement of Sal Forest and the remaining 45 are against high assessment. The former were settled by local investigation and the latter were rejected as based on absurd ground that "there is no legal evidence in support of the rise in price of food crops." These and other jotedars have then delivered notices to the Deputy Commissioner under section 424 of Civil Procedure Code to bring civil suits against the assessment of 38 jotes. The enhancement in these cases is partly due to assessment of sal at Re. 1-8 per acre which is prevailing in Terai against 12 annas per acre by last settlement, and partly due to large extension of cultivation, assessment of excess area, and to improvement of soil by fluvial action. The jotedars are not satisfied with 50 per cent. enhancement, although they have been allowed profit from 100 to 200 per cent. The report, with reply to each ground set forth in these notices, was submitted to the higher authorities for consideration.

8. *Boundary disputes.*—There were only five disputes about the boundaries of jotes. As the area in dispute in all these cases was found to be under waste, they were settled according to last settlement map. Besides these, two more objections against the correctness

9. *Miscellaneous petition.*—The transfer of jotes gave me much trouble to correct the records. During the year under report 102 applications for mutation of names and 38 petitions for relaying down the boundaries were received. The former were disposed of upon evidence of transferer and the latter by deputing amin at the cost of parties. The boundaries were preserved with wooden post to avoid future litigation.

11. *Cost with estimate.*—The cost of settlement operation during the year under review was Rs. 6,535, out of which Rs. 10 was incurred for survey of Siliguri Bazar. The amount of the estimate for which sanction has been asked is Rs. 7,080, details of which are shown in Statement F. The expenditure since the commencement of the operation has been—

(e) But this is exclusive of the expenditure of the Survey Department.

W. C. M.

1 Clerk.	1 Comparing clerk.
1 Peshkar.	1 Draftsman.
1 Record-keeper.	1 Muharrir.
1 Duftry.	4 Peons.

In conclusion, I have much pleasure to say that these officers have rendered me satisfaction by the due discharge of their duties.

Progress return of attestation work of Darjeeling Terai Settlement for the year ending 30th September 1897.

Name of Revenue Officer.	Name of Circle.	Number of jotes in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF JOTES—			ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF PRECEDING YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.				Number of jotes inspected during the year under report.	REMARKS.
				For which records have been received from the Survey Department.	For which records have been prepared in this office.	Total.	Number of jotes.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of jotes.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Babu Nibaran Chunder Gupta and Babu Sasi Bhushan Datta, Settlement Officers.	Buraganj	440	119.08	421	19	440	437	118.66	5,914	60,878	...	...	...	...	...	(a) Plot number has been increased from 106,541 to 110,227 on account of transfer of part of plots by boundary dispute and also owing to changes made in the classification of soil.
	Raniganj															
	Birnabari															
	Panisoli															
	Khakagram															
	Hatighasa															
	Nuxalbari															
	Baraghoria															
	Nizamtara															
	Patherghatta															
	Hetmari															
	Dumriguri															
Munshi Panch Kowri Biswas, Assistant Settlement Officer.	Attarakhal	495	111.07	463	32	495	495	111.07	5,319	49,349	...	...	...	...	...	
	Biserbati															
	Baraghoria															
	Patherghatta															
	Gassainpur															
	Champasari															
	Kamarbhanga jotes															
	Thakurganj															
	Singhighora															
	Hetaiml															
	Dumriguri															
	Hatighasa															
	Nuxalbari															
	Nizamtara															
	Total	935	230.15	884	51	935	932	224.73	11,233	(a) 1,10,227	...	...	...	...	...	

B.

Progress statement showing the status and rent of tenants as recorded in the khatians from the commencement of the settlement to the close of the year ending 30th September 1897.

CLASS OF CULTIVATORS.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LANDS.					REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class.	Average area of cultivated lands per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per cultivated acre.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Jotedars	985 (a)	68,722-70	73-50	88,232 13 6 (b)	1 4 6	(a) Including hat and khas.
2. Ticcadars and other tenants, including adhiars.	7,555	35,350-75	4 67	1,18,373 8 1	3 5 6	(b) The rent shown here is correct. Improvement cess at one anna per rupee was wrongly included in the revenue shown in the statement submitted last year.
3. Adhiars	2,743	8,575-87	3-12	.....	.....	
Total ...	11,233					

C.

Progress return of boundary disputes of Darjeeling Terai Settlement dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act for the year ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Number instituted up to the end of the previous year.	Number instituted during the year.	Total %	Number disposed of to the end of the previous year.	Number disposed of during the year.	Total.	Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
								Instituted.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Babu Nibaran Chandra Ghatak and Babu Soti Bhusan Datta, Settlement Officers.	38	5	43	36	7	43	...	...	...	...	...	...	Four cases were disposed of by Babu Nibaran Chandra Ghatak.
Munshi Panch Kowri Biswas, Assistant Settlement Officer.	132	...	132	132	...	132	...	2	2	1	...	1	
Total	170	5	175	168	7	175	...	2	2	1	...	1	

D.

Statement showing the progress of works of Darjeeling Terai Settlement for the year ending 30th September 1897.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK.	Amount of work to be done.	Done up to end of the previous year.	Done during the year under report.	Remaining to be done.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Checking the correction of records	Rs. 914*	306	608	...	* Increase in number of jotes is due to partition of jotes.
2. Correction of khasra and milan khasra accordingly to changes made during attestation.	437	311	126	...	
3. Writing up the jote notes	914	113	801	...	† Awaiting Government sanction of forms for re-newing 91 grants.
4. Preparation of leases	914	...	823	91†	
5. Application for the copies of trace, khasra, and khatian, &c.	260	...	260	...	
6. Comparing the lease with the records	914	...	823	91	‡ In 76 cases jamabandies were not published as there has been no enhancement.
7. Preparing the duplicate copy of lease for kabuliya	914	...	760	154	
8. Making fly-leaf of settlement misls	914	...	914	...	
9. Arrangement of survey records with preparation of fly-leaves for making over to the Deputy Commissioner's office.	914	...	914	...	
10. Preparation and checking of jamabandis	914	...	914	...	
11. Copying and comparing of jamabandies for publication...	914	...	838†	...	
12. Correction of statement for final figures	914	...	914	...	
13. Preparation of statement in Form No. 10, Appendix B, for submission with the final report showing the status of tenants, and rent payable by them as recorded in the khatian.	914	...	914	...	
14. Submission of final reports	1	...	...	1	
15. Writing up new tauzi register	2	...	...	2	
16. Division of jotes	57	40	17	...	

Statement showing the details of estimate of land settlement charges of Darjeeling Terai for the financial year 1897-98.

MAIN SUBHEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment (against each sub-head).	Expenditure incurred (against each subhead) from the beginning of the financial year up to end of September 1897.	Balance remaining against each subhead.
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1. Pay and special allowance of Settlement Officer.	3,000	1,800 0 0	1,200 0 0
2. Fixed establishment	1,316	915 0 0	401 0 0
3. Temporary ditto	759	523 5 4	235 10 8
4. Contract and job work	250	.....	250 0 0
5. Travelling allowance—			
Of officers	600	52 14 0	547 2 0
„ establishment	300	0 8 0	299 8 0
6. Contingencies—			
Service telegrams	15	1 10 0	13 6 0
Do. postage stamps	40	15 0 0	25 0 0
Office expenses	200	48 15 0	151 1 0
Miscellaneous (including copyists' remuneration).	600	220 0 7	379 15 5
Total	7,080	3,577 4 11	3,502 11 1

SASI BHUSAN DUTTA,
Settlement Officer.

SILIGURI,
The 28th September 1897.

No. 748G., dated Darjeeling, the 15th October 1897.

Memo. by—R. T. GREER, Esq., Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling.

FORWARDED in original to the Commissioner of the Rajshahi Division, with reference to his No. 866Rct., dated 6th September 1897.

2. The proposal to treat certain jotedars as tenure-holders has not been abandoned (as stated by the Settlement Officer).

3. The settlement of private markets within jotes is awaiting a reply from the Settlement Officer on certain question raised by the Commissioner.

4. The orders of Government have lately been received regarding the period of settlement.

5. The disposal of objections on the part of certain jotedars to the increased assessment may give rise to important proceedings in the Civil Court to determine their liabilities as tenure-holders. Otherwise, the difficulties of the settlement are over. No troublesome question remains for decision.

Commissioner's remarks on the Annual Report on the progress in the Settlement of the Terai in Darjeeling for the year 1897.

As attestation was finished in the preceding year, better progress might have been expected during the period under report. The assessment should not have taken a year, and the distribution of leases remains. The work was hung up at times for want of orders on such points as the period of settlement, and the Settlement Officer does not seem to have known how to press for the passing of orders. The general result has been recently discussed by me in more than one communication.

DARJEELING,
The 27th October 1897.

P. NOLAN,
Commissioner of Rajshahi.

No. 1205Rct., dated Darjeeling, the 1st November 1897.

Memo. by—P. NOLAN, Esq., Commissioner of the Rajshahi Division.

COPY, with a copy of the Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling's memorandum No. 948G., dated the 15th October 1897, together with the Terai Settlement Officer's report in original, forwarded to the Director Land Records, Bengal.

APPENDIX VI.

No. 148, dated Midnapore, the ^{8th}/_{12th} October 1897.

From—BABU GIRISH CHANDRA DUTT, Settlement Officer, Pataspur,
To—The Collector of Midnapore.

I HAVE the honour to submit this annual report of the settlement operations of the Pataspur estates for the survey year ending on 30th September last.

2. The survey and settlement of the 18 temporarily-settled estates of pargana Pataspur were sanctioned in Government Notification No. 3734L.R., dated 25th October 1892. The operations are being carried on under Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act. The area surveyed is about 54 square miles, comprising 96 villages, surveyed in 87,050 plots, included in 15,062 tenancies.

3. The history of the earlier stages of the work was given at some length in my last annual report, and so I refrain from repeating them here. The position at the end of the survey year 1895-96 was as follows:—

Progress of operations.

Work done:—

(a) *Khanapuri* and attestation of the *mal raiyati* records of all the 96 villages were finished, and fair rents were settled for all occupancy and non-occupancy raiyats of *mal* lands excepting proprietor's *nijjote* and *nijchas*.

(b) The raiyati records of 95 villages were published in draft, and out of 1,748 section 105 and 5 section 106 cases instituted up to 30th September 1896, 1,164 and 3 respectively were disposed of.

The following work remained to be done at the commencement of the survey year 1896-97:—

(a) *Khatians* of the under-tenants of *baziaftidars*, of under-raiyats and of raiyats of *nijjote* lands, as also those for jagir lands, not having been written up previously, khasras and khatians had to be compared for writing them up and for seeing that all plots found their way into khatians.

(b) The disposal of 584 section 105 cases standing over from the past year and any more that might be instituted, as the prescribed period for filing objections had not expired in many villages by the end of the preceding survey year.

(c) The correction of records according to orders passed in these section 105 cases and on *bhowriamilan* reports.

(d) The attestation of the *khatians* of the *baziaftidars*, their under-tenants, the raiyats of *nijjote*, and of under-raiyats of all the villages.

(e) Fair rent work of the *baziaftidars*, their tenants, the raiyats of *nijjote* and of under-raiyats generally of all the villages, besides the assessment of *nijjote* and *nijchas* lands.

(f) The draft publication of the records of the above-mentioned kinds of tenants of all the villages.

(g) The disposal of all section 105 and section 106 cases that might arise after the draft publication mentioned in (f), in addition to those mentioned in (b), which referred mainly to *mal raiyati* records.

(h) The carrying out of the orders passed in all the above cases and checking of all the records with a view to seeing if all orders have been properly carried out.

(i) The fairing and comparing of records for final publication and for distribution to landlords and tenants.

(j) Final publication of records of 96 villages.

(k) The writing up of final *terijes*.

(l) Preparation of statistical statements.

(m) Submission of final report and consignment of records into the collectorate record-room.

Besides the above, there was the work of the resumption of police *paikan* lands and of the excess areas of revenue-free estates and of permanently-settled estates and tenures.

4. I was in charge of the operations throughout the year, and I spent 217 days on tour during the year. The attestation and assessment work of the *baziaftidars*, their tenants, the raiyats of *nijjote*, and of

Staff and work done.

under-raiyats were taken up together, and nearly all the work detailed in (a) to (j) in paragraph (3) above was finished during the year. Out of the 96 villages under resettlement the records of only 8 villages remained to be finally published at the end of the year. Of these 8, the records of 7 villages will be finally published during the current month: the only other village that will remain is mauza Bamunbar, about whose resurvey final orders were received only on 8th August last. I have got the survey done already, and as soon as the fields are cleared of the standing crops, I will have it *purtalled*, and shall take up the attestation and assessment of the village together. Any way, I expect to get this work out of hand by the end of the calendar year.

I may state here that the local agricultural year commenced on the 8th September last, and I had the records of 16 out of the 18 estates under resettlement completely finally published by the 7th September. Altogether the records of 59 villages were finally published before the 8th September, and by 21st September the final publication of the records of 88

villages out of 96 was completed.* Copies of *khatians* have been distributed to the tenants of some 60 villages, and landlords' copies have been held over till they execute their *kabuliyats*.

5. *Case work*.—Besides the fair rent work under section 104 (2), mentioned in (e), paragraph 3 above, there were 2,850 section 105 and 10 section 106 cases disposed of during the year, and only 2 section 105 case and 8 section 106 cases remained to be disposed of at its end. There were no appeals from my decisions under section 104, and only one case under section 106 was carried in appeal, which has, however, been dismissed. There has been one appeal from an order under section 105, but no intimation has yet been received about its disposal. The police *paikan* lands within the temporarily-settled estates have been assessed to rent, and the *jagirdars* have all accepted the rents.

6. *Effect of the resettlement*.—The following paragraph, taken from my report on the division of assets between the State and the proprietor's, summarizes the effect of the resettlement:—

"25. I have now to make a few observations as to the general result of the resettlement to the Government and to the zamindars, * * * * * The present survey shows the total area of the 18 temporarily-settled estates of Patas-pur to be 51,034 bighas 12 cottaha 2 chitaks, while the total area according to the last settlement records is 46,331 bighas 14 cottahs 12 chitaks. The difference, namely, 4,702 bighas 17 cottahs 6 chitaks is mainly attributable to the difference in the systems of survey. The assets (excluding the *baziafti rental*) show an increase of Rs. 12,067-8-10 over the last settlement assets, even after giving a remission of 3 to 4 annas per rupee from the existing rental of 19 villages out of the 96 villages under resettlement. The increase in Government revenue, even after raising the rate of zamindars' *malikana* from 33½ per cent. to what it was up to 1874, namely, 35 per cent., amounts to Rs. 6,702-3-6, while the proprietors' incomes have increased by Rs. 5,070-1-6. The cost of the *patwaris'* establishment at Rs. 2-2-7½ per cent. on the total assets amounted to Rs. 1,099 in the last settlement, but has now increased with the increase of assets to Rs. 1,379-13-9 only. If the *patwaris'* establishment be not reorganised, the difference of the above amounts, namely, Rs. 280-13-9, will be credited to Government, and that will make the increase in the revenue Rs. 6,983-1-3. The cost of this settlement has, however, been unduly large, namely, Rs. 44,029 up to 31st March last, to which is to be added the budgetted amount for the current financial year, Rs. 8,077, thus making the total cost Rs. 52,106. I yet hope that I will not have to exceed the revised budget estimates for the year. Still the acreage cost will be unduly large, and this is due mainly to the constant change of officers owing to bad climate. This point, however, will be explained in my final report."

I am now waiting for orders regarding the term of the new settlement and the percentage of assets to be allowed to zamindars before calling upon the zamindars to execute *kabuliyats*.

7. *Maintenance of records*.—I have submitted my final proposals for remodelling the *patwari* system at present existing in Pataspur, but up to now no orders have been received.

8. *Cost during the year*.—The cost of the operations during the survey year under report has been Rs. 11,301, against a budget grant of Rs. 8,224 only. A revised programme and estimates were submitted in July last, but sanction has not yet been received.

9. *General remarks*.—In the first part of the year, my relations with my people were generally cordial, and the operations were followed with considerable interest. But with the attempt at assessing excess areas of privileged lands came the trouble. Many of the principal *baziaftidars* and *lakhrajidars* formed a combination and kept aloof from the proceedings. Many tenants under their influence were also induced to join their combination. The result was that the existing rents of the tenants holding from the *baziaftidars* and of the under-raiyats could not, I fear, be accurately recorded owing to the non-appearance of the parties at the time of attestation and assessment, which were done simultaneously. I believe, however, most of the errors that thus crept in have been corrected after draft publication which followed. Any way, if any mistakes have been made, they are due solely to the negligence of the parties who, even after repeated special notices, either kept aloof or tried to obstruct the proceedings. The zamindars as a body, however, tried to help me in the work, but their influence in these days is very small, either for good or for evil. The principal zamindar of the pargana, Choudhury Gopendra Nandan Dass Mahapatra, has constructed one cross-bund for the good of his tenants at a cost of Rs. 3,000, and has recently undertaken to construct another at a similar cost. The people are now a great deal reconciled, and have received the copies of the *khatian*, which they call *pattas*, with great alacrity.

10. The statement prescribed by Government order No. 147T.R., dated 7th June 1894, and the one prescribed by Director's circular No. 53S., dated 11th September 1896, are submitted herewith.

11. I regret there has been some delay in the submission of this report, owing to my having been laid up with a rather severe attack of fever during the Puja holidays, in consequence of which I am yet pinned to bed.

No. 325S., dated Midnapore, the 13th October 1897.

Memo.—By J. G. CUMMING, Esq., Offg. Collector of Midnapore.

FORWARDED, in original, to the Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture.

* By 14 days delay the Settlement Officer has presented the new revenue from being brought into effect in 29 of these 88 villages.

No. 13.—Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Khanapuri work ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER EMPLOYED.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH KHANAPURI WORK WAS COMPLETED.				Number of villages of which Khanapuri is going on, but is incomplete.	Number of villages inspected by Revenue Officer during the year under report.	Number of amins inspected by Revenue Officer during the year under report.	Number of plots of which the khasra entries were tested during the year.	REMARKS.
				Up to end of the previous year.		During the year under report.						
				Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Babu Girish Chandra Dutt.	Potas pur estates.	96	54*7	96	54*7	...	...	..	...	...	...	

No. 14.—Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Boundary Disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF.			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
	From the beginning of the year (1st October), including cases pending on 30th September, to the end of the previous year.	During the year under report.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year under report.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending from preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1)		8	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Babu Girish Chandra Dutt.	29	...	29	29	...	29	...	...	...	...	..	• ...	

No. 15.—Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Attestation work, including final publication of records ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	Number of villages for which re- cords have been received from the Survey Department.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.				NUMBER OF VIL- LAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT PUBLISHED.		NUMBER OF VIL- LAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED.		REMARKS.
					Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year under report.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year under report.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Babu Girish Chandra Dutt.	Potaspur Estates.	96	54.7	96	96	54.7	13,836	87,050	...	...	...	...	95	95	...	88	

No. 15(1).—Settlement Officer's Annual Return of cases under section 104 of the Tenancy Act for Settlement of fair rents ending 30th September 1897.

[illegible]

No. 15(2).—Settlement Officer's Annual Return of objections under section 105 and disputes under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Nature of case.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF -			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
		Up to the end of the previous year, including cases pending on 30th September of previous year.	During the year under report.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year under report.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending on 30th September of preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been--			
											Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Babu Girish Chandra Dutt.	(1) Objections heard and considered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act.	1,748	2,268	4,016	1,164	2,850	4,014	2	1	...	...	...	...	
	(2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	5	16	21	3	10	13	8	1	1	1	...	...	

No. 15(3).—Settlement Officer's Annual Financial Statement ending 30th September 1897.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment (against each sub-head).	Expenditure to end of the previous year (against each sub-head).	Expenditure during the year under report (against each sub-head).	Balance remaining (against each sub-head).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Pay and special allowance of—		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		
Settlement Officer ...	}	13,018 14 3	3,600 0 0		
Assistant Settlement Officers ...					
2. Fixed establishment ...	...	...	2,106 3 4		
3. Temporary establishment ...	...	10,066 14 2	3,009 7 8		
4. Contract and job work ...	...	...	768 6 0		
5. Travelling allowance—					
Of officers ...	...	924 2 0	789 6 0		
Of establishment ...	...	328 13 0	319 13 0		
6. Supplies and services—					
Forms ...	}	55 12 7	...		
Tents ...					
Petty construction ...					
„ repairs ...	...				
7. Contingencies—					
Hot-weather charges ...	}	2,232 13 10	670 14 3		
Office rent ...					
Service telegrams ...					
„ postage charges ...	...				
Remuneration to copyists, &c., &c., &c.	...	28 14 0	37 7 0		
	...	26,651 3 10	11,301 9 3		

No. 15(4).—Statement to be used in Monthly and Annual reports showing the status and rent of Tenants as recorded in the Khatians from commencement of the year under report ending 30th September 1897.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LANDS.					REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class in acres.	Average area of cultivated lands per holding in acres.	Rent.	Average rent per cultivated acre.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Acres.	Acres.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Proprietor's sir (nijote) ...	157	1,780'92	11'34	4,793 0 0	2 11 1	The figures given in the statement in Form No. 15 (4), submitted with the previous annual reports were lower than the figures in this statement, inasmuch as the tenants of <i>baziafidars'</i> raiyats of <i>nijote</i> and produce rent-paying raiyats were not taken into account in the former statements, khatians of these tenants were not written up till after the submission of the last annual report.
2. Held by proprietors, but not true sir.						
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders.	2,252	2,407'73	1'11	1,335 6 0	0 8 6	
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents.	...	...	...	...	...	
5. Settled raiyats ...	10,975	18,308'05	1'73	59,499 0 0	3 2 1	
6. Occupancy raiyats ...	1,668	1,010'49	'6	1,792 0 0	1 12 4	
7. Non-occupancy raiyats ...	30	10'32	'34	...	...	
8. Rent-free holders ...						
Total ...	15,062	24,297'51	...	67,400 0 0	...	

Showing progress made in the Settlements under the control of the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal, during the year ending 30th September 1897.

DIVISION	District.	Name of estate or tract under settlement.	Estimated area in square miles under settlement of revenue or rent.	Total number of villages.	AREA CADASTRALLY SURVEYED IN SQUARE MILES.			NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN PREPARED FOR ATTESTATION.		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH ATTESTATION HAS BEEN COMPLETED.		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH THE DRAFT RECORD OF RIGHTS HAS BEEN PUBLISHED UNDER SECTION 105 (1) OF THE TENANCY ACT.	
					Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Total area surveyed.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Burdwan ...	Midnapore ...	Potaspur temporarily-settled estates.	54'7	96	54'7	...	54'7	96	...	96	...	96	96

DIVISION.	District.	Name of estate or tract under settlement.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH THE FINAL RECORD OF RIGHTS HAS BEEN PUBLISHED UNDER SECTION 105 (2) OF THE TENANCY ACT.		Estimated number of tenants in the villages in column 5.	Number of tenants whose rent has been recorded and status determined in khatians finally published under section 105 (2) of the Tenancy Act, or under the law which governs the settlement.	NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED.				COST DURING THE YEAR.			
			Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.			Up to the end of the preceding year.	During the year under report.	Total.	Former rental of tenants included in column 21.	New rental settled for tenants included in column 21.	Survey, exclusive of expenditure incurred by the Survey Department.	Settlement.	Total.
			15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Burdwan ...	Midnapore ...	Potaspur temporarily-settled estates.	...	88	13,863	11,701	10,124	4,938	15,062	Rs. 51,242	Rs. 63,419	...	Rs. A. P. 11,301 9 3	Rs. A. P. 11,301 9 3

APPENDIX VII.

Commissioner's remarks on the Annual Report on the progress in the Settlement of the Jaipur Government estates in Bogra for the year 1896-97.

The settlement is being protracted a good deal beyond the period for which the estimate was made, but I do not attribute this to any want of energy on the part of the officer in charge. It is partly due to the subsequent inclusion of private estates in the area dealt with, partly to the changes which have occurred, the Settlement Officer having been twice transferred. These alterations throw the work back greatly in cases like the present where all the parties are inexperienced and cannot understand or trust each other's work. The proceedings under such circumstances are often begun a second or a third time.

Fair rents have been fixed for 5,766 tenants, there were 610 objections, which appear to have been settled to the satisfaction of the plaintiffs, as there were no appeals. The estimate of the enhancement is above Rs. 11,000, the original expectation having been Rs. 7,000. The Settlement Officer might with advantage have indicated the reasons for the reductions he has granted below the authorised rates. In some instances his object was to prevent too large an enhancement where there had been extensive reclamation; I will ask him what rule he adopted to limit increase for this cause, and what were the other reasons accepted as justifying reduction.

No. 104S., dated Khanjanpur, the 16th October 1897.

From—SORAB S. DAY, Esq., Settlement Officer, Jaipur Government estates, Bogra,
To—The Collector of Bogra.

I HAVE the honour to submit the following annual report on the progress in the settlement of the Jaipur Government estates in the district of Bogra for the survey year commencing on 1st October 1896 and ending on 30th September 1897.

2. These estates were notified for survey and settlement under Chapter X, Bengal Tenancy Act, in Government notification of 24th January 1893. The estates are at present two in number, viz. tauzis Nos. 799 and 798 respectively. There were formerly eight estates, but in 1895 seven of them were amalgamated together in one estate, No. 799. This estate contains 99 villages, which belong entirely to Government, and has lands in 4 more villages, which also belong entirely to Government, but which also contains kismats belonging to estate No. 798. Estate No. 798, besides having lands in the four villages, has also lands in 53 other villages, known as the "ijmali villages." In 11 of the so-called ijmali villages Government in fact possesses all the lands, and in the remaining 42, 4 estates owned by private proprietors have joint-proprietary rights with Government. In all, therefore, the estates comprise 156 villages lying to the east and the west of the Northern Bengal State Railway, and are easily accessible from Jaipur Hât Railway Station, which is only a couple of miles of good road, from Khanjanpur, the head-quarters of the estates.

3. Babu Nitya Nanda Ghosh commenced settlement operations in February 1894. He was, however, transferred in August of that year, and Babu Sarat Chandra Das, Deputy Collector, took charge on the 27th November 1894. The latter reverted to general duty during the recess of 1895, but recommenced work on the 1st November 1895, and worked on till the 17th June 1896, when I took over charge. For four months after my arrival I was mainly employed in bringing the records into some sort of order.

I commenced attestation work in camp in the end of October and continued on tour with occasional breaks up to the end of March. Again, in June and August I was out under canvas for several days. I spent 97 days on tour during the year. Besides these, on 106 more days I was away from head-quarters from time to time for holding local enquiries. The total number of days, therefore, that I was actually engaged in outdoor work during the year was 203.

4. *Record-writing.*—The whole of the survey and khamapuri was completed in the field seasons of 1893-94 and 1894-95.

Babu Sarat Chandra Das, however, found the work badly done, and on his recommendation the whole of the work was revised. This revision work was completed shortly before my arrival. No khamapuri work was, therefore, done during the year under report.

5. *Attestation.*—In 1894-95 the attestation of 11 villages was completed. During 1895-96 the attestation of 111 more villages with 3,657 tenancies, and contained in 31,242 plots, was done before my arrival in June 1896.

As stated above, for four months after I took charge I was engaged in acquainting myself with the records and in arranging them. In camp I found that the attestation of a great many of the villages already done would have to be gone over *de novo*. Fresh notices of attestation were served, and I commenced the work at the south-east of the estates, then went upwards to the north, and gradually worked round by the west to head-quarters, camping at eight centres, so that the raiyats had not more than three miles to come from. All this extra work, for which provision was not made at first, has delayed the operations greatly.

On the whole the attendance during attestation was good, and all that could be expected, considering how often the raiyats had been dancing attendance every now and then for the last four years.

During the year I completed the attestation of 126 villages with 7,540 tenancies contained in 57,574 plots and comprising an area of 49.9 square miles. These villages include the so-called "ijmali villages." The attestation of these latter villages was a particularly laborious and difficult task. The agents of the private proprietors knew very little of the lands belonging to their estates, and requested me to proceed on the basis of the records of the last Government survey and settlement of the Jaipur estates in 1878-79. This entailed a minute comparison, plot by plot, between the former survey maps and those of the present survey. Of course where clear and well-defined possession was at variance with the entries in the old papers, the former was followed. Similarly, the lands of istamrar and brahmottar and other rent-free holdings were hunted out from the former survey maps and records in order to ensure their being recorded for nothing more than what really belonged to them.

On the whole I have reason to believe that the proprietors whose lands are mixed up with those of Government as well as their raiyats are, on the whole, now satisfied with the record of rights.

6. *Settlement of rents.*—In April 1896 my predecessor, Babu Sarat Chandra Das, with the help of the Manager, submitted an elaborate rate report for the villages of estate No. 799. The rates proposed with alterations recommended by the Collector and Commissioner were approved by the Board of Revenue. The principle of the assessment adopted was a general levelling up of rents. In order to make this clear some mention must be made of the peculiarity of the rents in these estates. Hitherto there have been no recognized rates of rent, and only a meagre classification of the soil. Great inequalities in the rents paid have always existed. For instance, one raiyat pays at the rate of one rupee a bigha for the same class of soil in the same village for which another pays eight annas and a third four annas. In the last settlement of 1878-79 all rents were raised by 2 annas to 4 annas in the rupee. This left the inequalities the same as before, with additional hardship to the raiyats who had already paid higher rents than others. In the present settlement an attempt has been made to equalize the rents. Those rents which have been found to be high have been left alone, and those which were unduly low have been raised. A scale of guiding rates has been fixed for each village. The villages have been classified into seven groups of rates. The legal basis for the enhancement has been the rise in the price of rice (the staple food-crop of the district), which has been found to justify an enhancement of 50 per cent. When the rent arrived at by the new rates has been found to be lower than the existing rent, the latter has been settled as fair; when the resulting rent has been found to be greater than the existing rent, *plus* 50 per cent., *plus* a fair rent for excess area, the latter sum has been settled as fair. In a word, the low rents in a village have been pushed up as far as possible to the level of the high rents, care being taken in each case that the new rent does not exceed the existing rent, *plus* a fair rent for excess area (if there is any) by more than 50 per cent.

As to the ijmali villages, the assessment has been carried out on the same lines as the villages of estate No. 799. The existing rents in these villages were higher than those in the villages of estate No. 799, and hence the rents of a very great many holdings have been left alone, the existing rents being settled as fair and equitable.

I commenced settling fair rents in November last and finished in September. The majority of the raiyats appeared and accepted their rents when they first heard them. But later on during the last five months or so several of them put in objections under section 105, Bengal Tenancy Act, to the rent settled. On a careful consideration of each case, and in many instances after local enquiry, I have had to reduce the rents of several raiyats. In most cases, and specially when the raiyats were in possession of pretty large excess areas, I found that, although the rent settled by me was theoretically quite fair and equitable, it would undoubtedly cause hardship. Some objections have yet to be disposed of, and a few more still will be instituted.

Great pains were taken to ensure the attendance of the raiyats during the proceedings for settlement of rents, and in consequence the number of those whose rents have been settled *ex parte* in their absence has been extremely small. Those who accepted their new rents put either their signatures or their thumb impressions, as the case was, on the fair rent schedules in my presence, in token of acceptance.

On the whole the rates have been found to work well. In the case of only one village I found it imperatively necessary to lower the rates all round, classing it in a lower group.

Up to the present after the reductions I had to make in some rents, the Government rental has been enhanced from Rs. 39,233 to Rs. 51,051, *i.e.*, by Rs. 11,818, or about 30 per cent. But this enhancement will be reduced by a small amount, as some objections to rent have yet to be disposed of.

No appeals to the rent settled have as yet been preferred before the Special Judge.

On the whole I may safely estimate that the total enhancement will not be less than Rs. 11,000.

Of the private proprietors, only one, the proprietor of estate No. 54, put in applications under section 104 for settlement of the rents of his raiyats. All the rents that have been settled up to date have been amicably agreed upon. The landlord almost invariably agreed to any enhancement, however small, that the raiyat declared he was willing to give. The relation between landlord and raiyat in this instance struck me forcibly by its contrast to what I had been accustomed to in Bihar, where the raiyat in a struggle with his landlord generally goes to the wall. In settling the rents of this estate I noticed that the rents were invariably lower than those of Government in the same village, and that the raiyats had in many instances managed to get very large excess areas in their possession. Some rents have yet to be settled in a few villages.

7. *Boundary disputes*.—Up to the end of 1895-96 83 disputes were disposed of. During the year under report 18 more were decided, leaving none pending.

8. *Draft publication*.—The publication of the records of all the 155 villages—one village is full of jungle and not cultivated—in draft was commenced and completed during the year under report. I was out now and then inspecting the work of the kanungos, and saw that they wrote up their diaries regularly.

9. *Case work*.—During the year 610 objections under section 105, Bengal Tenancy Act, were instituted, of which I disposed of 597, leaving 13 pending at the end of September. A good number of these were objections to the rents settled. In disposing of them I rode out to convenient centres, and went into camp in June and August both for the convenience of the parties, and for facility in holding local enquiries where necessary. Up to the present no plaints under section 106 have been filed. This has been owing partly to my discouraging litigation and inducing disputants to settle their differences amicably. In this I have been helped very greatly by the Manager of these estates.

10. *Final publication*.—The faired records of 119 villages were finally published during the year. Only 36 now remain to complete the work. I also inspected this work from time to time. Copies of the records are in course of preparation for distribution to the landlords and the raiyats.

11. *Cost*.—The following table shows the cost of survey and settlement during the year and from the beginning:—

DURING THE YEAR.		FROM THE BEGINNING.	
Survey.	Settlement.	Survey.	Settlement.
1	2	3	4
...	10,922	12,625	29,195

The budget allotment for the financial year was Rs. 5,970. It was then contemplated that the work would be over by the end of August; but as the winding up of the operations will take some months more, I have applied for a further grant, as the sanctioned budget allotment has been expended.

12. *Apportionment of cost*.—The private proprietors whose lands are under settlement deposited certain sums when they applied for survey and settlement. These sums have been credited into the Treasury at Bogra. Statistics are in course of preparation, on the completion of which it will be known how much each proprietor will have to contribute as his share of the cost.

13. *Maintenance of records*.—The Director of Land Records when he was here on inspection in April last consulted with the Manager on this subject. I am not aware what arrangements are in contemplation by the higher authorities.

14. *Miscellaneous*.—In my last annual report I complained of the apathy of the raiyats. As long as attestation went on, they were more or less indifferent, though I must say their attendance at camp was good. During settlement of rents I had at first some trouble in getting them to attend, but later on when they began to understand the state of things better, they woke up gradually from their apathy, attended the kanungos during the publication of the draft records, and came over to have their khatians read again and again to make sure that all was right. But this interest was evinced chiefly by the raiyats of the villages to the south of the head-quarters. They are far more intelligent and wideawake to their interest than the Bunas, Kochs, Sonthals, and other aborigines to the north.

In order to ensure prompt attendance I found that a printed summons had a much greater effect than a printed revenue process, or any number of manuscript notices. In this way, therefore, I avoided the necessity of levying process fees, which would have caused hardship in this year of scarcity.

During my work last year I was struck by the great number of family disputes among the raiyats as to their shares in jotes. The principle in these estates all along has been to keep a jote entire and intact. Formerly, a family was content to allow the name of one of them alone, generally the eldest brother, to be entered in the Manager's rent-roll for the whole jote. But ever since the settlement commenced they seem to have grown suspicious of one another, and clamoured to have the name of every one of them entered in the records. A little consideration showed me that this was only natural and to be expected, because ten years back a jote was of very little account in these estates, whereas now it is valuable property. Then transfers for a money consideration were extremely rare: now they are of every-day occurrence. In fact, so common have transfers become during the last few years that a great deal of time has been taken up in recording the mutation of names in the settlement records. I could have refused to make the changes in cases where the transfers had taken place after attestation; but as that would have caused confusion at the time of settlement of rents, I invariably acceded to their wishes and had the mutations effected. Though this has delayed the work to a certain extent, the value of the records has been enhanced.

The Manager of the estates, Babu Annada Nanda Sen, continued to give me most valuable assistance throughout the year.

The usual returns are herewith submitted.

As instructed by you, I have submitted a copy of this report to the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal, together with the returns.

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Boundary Disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act for the year ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF.			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE MONTH UNDER REPORT.				
	From the beginning of the year (1st October), including cases pending on 30th September, to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending from preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—		
										Upheld	Modified	Reversed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
S. S. Day, Esq. ...	94	7	101	83	18	101	...	...	...	...	...	...

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Attestation work, including final publication of records, for the year ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	Number of villages for which records have been received from the Survey Department.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.				NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT PUBLISHED.		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED.		REMARKS.
					Number of vil- lages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of vil- lages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
S. S. Day, Esq.	Jaipur Government estates. Private estate No. 54.	156	55.5	157	121	51.11	3,961	32,692	126	40.9	7,540	57,574	...	155	...	119	91 reattested.
		...	...	...	1	3	50	447	1	3	47	453	...	...	...	...	

No. 15(1).—Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Cases under Section 104 of the Tenancy Act for Settlement of Fair Rents for the year ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Area of circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH CASES HAVE BEEN INSTITUTED.			NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH CASES HAVE BEEN DISPOSED OF.			NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED.			Former rental of tenants included in column 12.	New rental settled for tenants in column 12.	NUMBER OF DECISIONS APPEALED AGAINST TO SPECIAL JUDGE.			NUMBER OF APPEALS DE- CIDED.			NUMBER OF DE- CISIONS OF REVE- NUE OFFICER AS IN COLUMN 20—			REMARKS.
			To end of previous month, including cases pending on 30th September of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.			To end of previous month, including cases pending on 30th September of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	Upheld.	Modified.	Reserved.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
S. S. Day, Esq.	Jaipur G.v. ernment es- tate. Private estate No. 54.	156	.....	...	...	...	152	152	...	5,766	5,766	Rs. 39,233	Rs. 51,051	....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		...	.....	12	12	...	12	12	...	220	220	927	1,162	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

No. 15(2).—Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Objections under Section 105 and Disputes under Section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act for the year ending 30th September 1897.

Name of Revenue Officer.	Nature of case.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF.			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF THE MONTH UNDER REPORT.				
		Up to the end of the previous month, including cases pending on 30th September of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending on 30th September of preceding year.	Decided.	Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
S. S. Day, Esq.	(1) Objections heard and considered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act.	...	610	610	...	597	597	13	...	...	...	...	...
	(2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	.....	..	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...

No. 15(3).—Settlement Officer's Annual Financial Statement for the year ending 30th September 1897.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment (against each sub-head).	Expenditure to end of the previous month (against each sub-head).	Expenditure during the month (against each sub-head).	Balance remaining (against each sub-head).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Pay and special allowance of—	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	The figures in column 2 represent the budget allotment for the financial year 1897-98 up to November 1897, and those in column 5 represent the balance in hand at the end of September 1897 (financial year).
Settlement Officer ...	1,800	7,892 1 11	2,400 0 0	600 0 0	
Assistant Settlement Officers.	...	...	...	.....	
2. Fixed establishment ...	855	1,982 14 11	1,183 14 1	223 8 6	
3. Temporary establishment ...	3,467	5,544 6 4	5,342 0 4	565 4 10	
4. Contract and job work ...	2,500	...	875 3 11	1,624 12 1	
5. Travelling allowance—					
Of officers ...	330	885 15 6	461 15 0	141 0 0	
Of establishment ...	75	119 10 0	56 6 0	68 0 0	
6. Supplies and services—					
Carriage of forms ...	15	1,847 10 2	602 12 9	10 5 0	
Tents ...	...			.....	
Petty construction ...	...			.....	
„ repairs ...	10			6 14 0	
Country stationery ...	50			28 0 0	
7. Contingencies—					
Office expenses ...	25			3 4 6	
Hot-weather charges ...	20			.....	
Office rent ...	...			.....	
Service telegrams ...	10			10 0 0	
„ postage charges ...	50			44 10 9	
Miscellaneous ...	405			305 7 0	
Total ...	9,612	18,272 10 10	10,922 4 1	3,631 2 8	

During the year.

	Rs. A. P.
I.—Pay and allowances (including travelling allowance) of Settlement Officer	2,361 15 0
II.—Pay and travelling allowance of Head Office establishment	1,240 4 1
III.—Khanapuri	...
IV.—Attestation (jamabandi work also)	5,122 3 4
V.—Case-work	...
VI.—Draft and final publication	219 13 0
VII.—Copying and Terij Department	875 3 11
VIII.—Miscellaneous	602 12 9
	10,922 4 1

No. 15(4).—Statement to be used in Annual Reports showing the status and rent of Tenants as recorded in the Khatians from commencement of the year under report for the year ending 30th September 1897.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LANDS.				
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class.	Average area of cultivated lands per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per cultivated acre.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Proprietor's <i>sir</i> (<i>nij-jote</i>) ...	...	Acre. 5,963	Acre. D. ...	Rs. ...	Rs. A. P. ...
2. Held by proprietors, but not true <i>sir</i> .	...	...	...	...	...
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders.	44	1,126	25 3	543	0 7 9
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents	...	...	...	...	...
5. Settled raiyats ...	5,230	18,997	3 6	28,618	1 8 1
6. Occupancy raiyats ...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Non-occupancy raiyats ...	2,140	4,953	2 3	6,810	1 5 11
8. Rent-free holders ...	126	870	6 9	...	...
Total ...	7,540	31,909	4 2	35,976	1 2 0

PRIVATE ESTATE No. 54.

No. 15(4).—Statement to be used in Annual Reports showing the status and rent of Tenants as recorded in the Khatians from commencement of the year under report for the year ending 30th September 1897.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LANDS.				
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class.	Average area of cultivated lands per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per cultivated acre.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Proprietor's <i>sir</i> (<i>nij-jote</i>) ...	...	Acre. ...	Acre. D. ...	Rs. ...	Rs. A. P. ...
2. Held by proprietors, but not true <i>sir</i> .	...	20	...	...	...
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders.	...	...	...	...	...
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents.	...	...	...	...	...
5. Settled raiyats ...	39	188	4 8	442	2 5 7
6. Occupancy raiyats ...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Non-occupancy raiyats ...	8	10	1 2	15	1 8 0
8. Rent-free holders ...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	47	218	4 6	457	2 1 6

APPENDIX VIII.

Dated Barisal, the 29th September 1897.

From—BABU PYARI MOHAN BASU, Settlement Officer, Backergunge,
To—The Collector of Backergunge.

IN accordance with Circular No. 45S., dated 1st September 1897, from the Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal, I have the honour to submit the following report on the progress of survey and settlement of the several estates under my charge for the year ending 30th September 1897.

I.—SETTLEMENT OF GOVERNMENT ESTATES AND TEMPORARILY SETTLED ESTATES UNDER THE BENGAL TENANCY ACT.

2. The following Government estates in the district of Backergunge were under settlement according to the provisions of Bengal Tenancy Act :—

	Acre.	
I.—Char Romesh ...	1,536	
II.—Char Nalgora ...	672	
III.—Surplus accretion to Char Lakhi alias Padma Manasha ...	1,434	
IV.—Char Heshamuddin ...	9,659	
V.—Char Krishnapura ...	2,267	In the previous report the area was estimated to be 2,347 acres.
VI.—Tushkhali estate ...	21,104	Two entire villages and a part of another village have been excluded from the operation.
VII.—Char Kalupura ...	2,960	
	39,632	
	=61.93 sq. miles.	

3. (i and ii) Full accounts of the settlements of Char Romesh, No. 6359, and Char Nalgora, No. 5231, were given in the previous reports. Both these settlements have been sanctioned by the Board during the year.

4. (iii) *Surplus accretion to Char Lakhi alias Padma Manasha, No. 6486.*—It is a temporarily-settled private estate. Its total area is 1,434 acres comprised in 1,336 plots.

5. In this estate there are 1 hebai talukdar, 3 osat talukdars, 1 nim osat talukdar, 8 howladars, 1 nim howladar, 1 osat nim howladar, 1 abadkari jotedar, 124 raiyats and 19 under-raiyats. Of these, 1 hebai talukdar, 3 osat talukdars, 4 howladars and 1 nim howladar hold directly under the proprietors, two howladars hold partly under the hebai talukdar and partly under the proprietors, and the abadkari jotedar holds partly under the proprietors and partly under osat talukdars. The remaining two howladars, 1 nim osat talukdar and 1 osat nim howladar are under the tenure-holders. There is no raiyat directly under the proprietor. They all hold under the tenure-holders and the under-tenure-holders.

6. This is the first settlement of the revenue. It was completed by Mr. Dwiya Das Datta in 1894, but on appeal his proceedings were declared by the Special Judge as illegal and irregular, and the case was remanded for the doing of the work over again.

7. The records were accordingly revised, re-attested and published finally on 26th November 1895. The Government revenue according to this settlement has been fixed at Rs. 2,953-15-9. The final report of this settlement is pending with the Board.

8. (iv) *Bhashan Daria Nungola alias Char Heshamuddin, No. 4656.*—This is an island char and the property of Government. The Government notification for survey and settlement of this estate was issued on 6th October 1894.

9. It contains a total area of 9,659 acres comprised in 15,008 plots. The total number of tenants is 1,994, consisting of 28 tenure-holders, 1,044 raiyats and 922 under-raiyats.

10. The attestation of the records was completed before 1st October 1896, and the settlement has been completed during the year under review, the net financial result showing an increase of Rs. 5,024-2-6 over the previous revenue of Rs. 14,494-1. The final report of this settlement has been submitted to the Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.

11. (v) *Char Krishnapura, No. 5222.*—It is a purchased estate. The Government notification for survey and settlement of this estate was issued on 23rd December 1895.

12. The total area according to the present survey is 2,267 acres comprised in 4,153 plots. The total number of tenants is 678 consisting of 12 tenure-holders, 632 raiyats and 34 under-raiyats.

13. The survey and khanapuri were finished in 1895-96, and the settlement has been completed during the year under report, the net result showing an increase of Rs. 1,112-2-3 over the previous revenue of Rs. 3,121.

14. The final report of this settlement has been submitted to the Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.

15. (vi) *Tushkhali, No. 4642.*—The survey and settlement of this estate was ordered by Government notification, dated 10th December 1894.

16. The estate comprises 23 villages comprising, according to present survey, 23,037 acres. The survey and attestation of records, including the determination of status of the tenants, were completed before 1st October 1896.

17. During the past year two entire villages and a part of another, comprising a total area of 1,933·58 acres, were excluded from the operation in consequence of their present deteriorated condition. The total area now under settlement comprises 21 villages containing 21,103·46 acres. The total number of tenants in these 21 villages is 5,388, consisting of 75 tenure-holders, 4,078 raiyats and 1,235 under-raiyats.

18. During the year under review fair rents have been settled for all classes of tenants and the records have been published in draft. The net result showed an increase of Rs. 9,051-9-8 over the previous revenue of Rs. 93,405-3-4.

19. (vii) *Kalpura*, No. 5218.—It is a temporarily-settled private estate covering a total area of 2,960 acres. The Government order for survey and settlement was issued on 23rd February 1897. The survey and khanapuri and the initial record-writing have been completed in the course of the year. The total estimated number of tenants is 1,202. Attestation will be made and rents will be settled in the current year.

II.—WARDS' ESTATES.

20. *Dakhinshabapur Estates*.—A full account of this settlement was given in the previous reports. The final report was submitted in January 1896. It has not yet been reviewed by Government.

21. Out of a total recoverable expenditure of Rs. 78,260-11-6, a sum of Rs. 60,428-3-6 was recovered up to 30th September 1896 and a further sum of Rs. 14,725-15 6 has been recovered in the course of the year. Certificates have been filed for the balance (Rs. 3,106-8-6) still due.

22. *Srirampur Estates*.—Pargana Srirampur comprises zamindari Baidya Nath Mittra, No. 3,574 and two kharija taluks Nos. 3575 and 3613, called respectively Abu Rabiulla and Fatema Khanam, containing a total area of 5,843 acres and 2,280 tenants.

23. The settlement proceedings were concluded before 1st October 1896. During the year under review records have been made over to the Collectorate and the final report has been submitted.

24. Out of a total recoverable expenditure of Rs. 9,425-15-8, a sum of Rs. 2,472-4, was recovered up to 30th September 1896 and a further sum of Rs. 6,873-0-5 has been realized during the year, leaving a balance of Rs. 80-11-3 only, for which certificates have been filed.

III.—PRIVATE ESTATES OTHER THAN WARDS' ESTATES

25. *Ulania taluks*.—The Ulania taluks are comprised in 31 villages with a total area of 9,455 acres and 2,998 tenants.

26. The survey and settlement operations had been concluded before the commencement of the year at a total cost of Rs. 18,142-0-2, of which Rs. 16,130-5-2 were recoverable under section 114. Tenancy Act. Of this amount, Rs. 12,564-5-2, have been realized up to 30th September 1897. The balance is payable by the talukdars by instalments, extending up to March 1898.

27. *Chiknikandi villages*.—The Chiknikandi group of villages comprises 17 villages in all with a total area of about 17,434 acres or 27·24 square miles. Seven of these villages comprising 5·43 square miles were brought under survey by Government order, dated 25th February 1895 and two, comprising 4·28 square miles, by Government order, dated 18th November 1895 and the Government order for the survey of the remaining 8 villages was issued on 26th February 1897. The Government orders have been passed on the ground of the existence of serious disputes between the landlords and the tenantry.

28. These villages appertain to the kharija taluks Nos. 1725, 1726 and 1727 of pargana Chandra Dwip, No. 3567 of pargana Sultanabad and No. 1636 of pargana Buzrug Umedpur. The original talukdars privately divided the lands of these villages into 7 anna, 8½ anna and ½ anna shares. In making the partition they allowed the lands of the 5 taluks to be mixed up, and some of the shareholders obtained more lands in one village and less or none in others. The papers relating to this partition, which was made before 1165 B.S. are not forthcoming. Thus while this partition gave rise to great complications of interests, it has now become a fruitful source of dispute among the numerous proprietors who own these taluks in very small shares. Some of the proprietors, or at least the stronger ones among them, are claiming a full share of land in villages in which they had only a small amount of land, or none at all. Another source of dispute is that subordinate to these taluks, each proprietor owns what is called his *nij houla*. He pays the rent of such houla to himself and collects the whole of the rents in respect of the lands comprised therein. Each of them therefore tries to include as much land as he can in his own *nij houla* and this gives rise to disputes in which both the landlords and the tenants take part.

29. Up to 30th September 1897 attestation, including determination of status of the tenants and settlement of rents, have been completed in respect of the 9 villages in the first two batches. Publication has also been made in draft in respect of all and finally in respect of one of these villages.

30. With regard to the remaining eight villages, as the Government order was received late and the villages are low, jungly and intersected by numerous khals, the survey and khanapuri were finished with respect to three villages only during the last cold weather and the initial record-writing regarding these villages have been completed during the recess. The survey of the remaining five villages will be taken up in the current year.

31. *Taluk Krishna Ram Sen.*—This estate comprises 11 villages with a total area of 9,451 acres. These villages are contiguous to the Chiknikandi group of villages, and are low, jungly and intersected by numerous khals. They appertain to the kharija taluks, Nos. 1725, 1726 and 1727 of pargana Chandra Dwip, No. 3567 of pargana Sultanabad and No. 1636 of pargana Buzrug Umedpur. These taluks originally arose out of the estate comprising the Chiknikandi villages; so all the complications found in Chiknikandi exist in these villages.

32. Government order for the survey and settlement under section 101, sub-section 2(a) was issued on 5th February 1897. Survey and khamapuri were finished in the cold weather and the initial record-writing has been completed during the recesses. The total estimated number of tenants is 5,000.

33. *Taluk Gouri Narayan Guha.*—Taluk Gouri Narayan Guha or the Taterkati estates, comprising estates Nos. 3259 and 6407, were brought under survey and settlement under Government order, dated 2nd February 1897. They comprise 4 villages with a total area of 967 acres.

34. The survey and khamapuri of all these villages were finished in the cold weather, and the initial record-writing has been completed during the recess. The total estimated number of tenants is 556.

35. *Char Gasipura, No. 5194.*—Char Gazipura, No. 5194, covering a total estimated area of 2,710 acres, has been brought under survey and settlement on the application of the proprietors, who are new purchasers, under section 103 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

36. The order of the Board of Revenue was issued on 14th August 1897. The survey will be taken up in the current year.

IV.—SETTLEMENT OF GOVERNMENT ESTATES UNDER THE OLD REGULATIONS.

37. In addition to the settlements under the Bengal Tenancy Act, I have charge of all settlements under the old regulations in the district of Backergunge. The following statement will show the amount of work done in connection with these settlements during the year ending 30th September 1897 :—

Estates of which settlement was pending on 1st October 1896.		Estates brought under settlement during the year.		Total number of estates under settlement.		Settlement completed and sanctioned by higher authorities.		Settlement completed, but not yet sanctioned by higher authorities.		Estates in which settlement work is going on.		Financial results of the completed cases shown in columns 7 to 10.			REMARKS.
No.	Area in acres.	No.	Area in acres.	No.	Area in acres.	No.	Area in acres.	No.	Area in acres.	No.	Area in acres.	Previous revenue.	Present revenue.	Increase.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
21	7,589'39	36	22,205'87	57	23,795'26	34	14,080'53	3	1,477'04	20	14,237'69	Rs. A. P. 5,593 5 5	Rs. A. P. 8,465 4 3	Rs. A. P. 2,871 14 10	

V.—MAINTENANCE OF SETTLEMENT RECORDS AND PERMANENT SURVEY MARKS.

38. *Maintenance of records.*—Under orders of the Board of Revenue arrangement has been made for the maintenance of the records of the Dakshinshabazpur wards' estates and of the Government and private estates under the direct management of Government; of the former under the supervision of the Manager and of the latter estates under the supervision of the Deputy Collector in charge of khas mahals. These officers have accordingly been supplied with copies of village maps and of the khasra in an abbreviated form approved by the Board. For the present the work will be confined to the maintenance of the working rent roll prepared from the settlement papers, so far as regards the tenants with whom the Manager and the khas tahsil establishment are in direct relation.

39. *Maintenance of boundary marks.*—Orders have been issued by the Collector through Police to the chaukidars and village panchayats to give notice of any injury to boundary marks within their villages. Orders have also been issued by the Collector to all Revenue Officers in the district to inspect the marks in their jurisdictions while on tour.

40. *Staff.*—Babu Revati Mohan Chakraverty, who was employed as Assistant Settlement Officer exclusively from December 1896 to March 1897, and in addition to other duties from April to September 1897, rendered me material assistance in the completion of the settlements under the old regulations. He also inspected the survey and the khamapuri work of the estates under the Bengal Tenancy Act. He is hard-working, industrious, and a very willing officer.

No. 205S., dated Backergunge, the 29th September 1897.

Memo. by—The Officiating Collector of Backergunge.

FORWARDED in original to the Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal, with reference to his Circular No. 45S., dated 1st September 1897.

2. The year has been one of steady progress. As usual, Babu Pyari Mohan Basu has shown energy and tact. Babu Revati Mohan Chakraverty has also given useful help.

Name of Revenue Officer employed.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH KHANAPURI WORK WAS COMPLETED—				Number of villages of which Khanapuri is going on, but is incomplete.	Number of villages inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of amirs inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of plots of which the khasra entries were tested during the year.	REMARKS.
				Up to end of the previous year.		During the year.						
				Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Babu Pyari Mohan Basu. Settlement Officer.	GOVERNMENT ESTATES.											
	Char Romesh	1	2'40	1	2'40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	" Nalgora	1	1'05	1	1'05	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	" Padma Manasha	1	2'24		2'24	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	" Heshumuddin	5	15'09	5	15'09	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	" Krishnapura	1	3'70	1	3'70	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Tushkhali	21	32'83	21	32'83	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Char Kalupura	1	4'62	.....	.....	1	4'62	.....	1	6	288	
		31	61'93	30	57'31	1	4'62	.....	1	6	288	
	PRIVATE ESTATES.											
	Chiknikandi	17	27'24	9	9'71	3	1'26	.....	2	7	324	
	Taluk Krishna Ram Sen.	11	14'76	.....	.....	11	14'76	.....	11	14	580	
	Taterkati	4	1'51	.....	.....	4	1'51	.....	2	3		
		32	43'51	9	9'71	18	17'53	.....	15	24	91	

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of boundary disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act.

Name of Revenue Officer.	NUMBER INSTITUTED—			NUMBER DISPOSED' OF—			NUMBER REMAINING AT THE END OF THE YEAR.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE MONTH UNDER REPORT—					REMARKS.
	From the beginning of the year (1st October), including cases pending on 30th September, to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending from preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
					GOVERNMENT ESTATES.								
					PRIVATE ESTATES. CHIKNIKANDI.								
Babu Prari Mohan Basu, Settlement Officer.	50	50		50	50								

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Attestation Work, including final publication of Records.

Name of Revenue officer.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	Number of villages for which records have been received from the Survey Department.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.				NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT PUBLISHED.	NUBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RE-CORDS HAVE BEEN FINAL- ALY PUB- LISHED.	REMARKS. (Here note adequacy of work done or cause of failure to work up to pogramme.)			
					Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
Babu Pyari Mohan Basu Settlement Officer.	Char Bomesesh ...	1	2'40	1	1	2'40	59	90	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	" Nalgora ...	1	1'05	1	1	1'05	164	1,145	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	" Padma Mana-sha.	1	2'24	1	1	2'24	139	1,336	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	" Heshamuddin	5	15'09	5	5	15'09	1,994	15,008	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	5	...	
	" Krishnapura	1	3'70	1	...	...	...	...	1	3'70	678	4,153	...	1	...	1	...	
	Tushkhali	21	32'83	21	21	32'83	5,388	37,752	...	...	...	...	...	21	...	...	...	
	Char Kalupura	1	4'62	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
		13	61'93	31	29	53'61	7,744	55,331	1	3'70	678	4,153	...	27	...	...	6	
		hiznikandi ...	7	27'24	9	7	5'43	1,043	3,320	2	4'28	517	2,425	3	6	...	1	

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Cases under section 104 of the Tenancy Act for Settlement of fair Rents.

Name of Revenue officer.	Name of circle.	Area of circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH CASES HAVE BEEN INSTITUTED.												NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH CASES HAVE BEEN DISPOSED OF.			NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED.			Former rental of tenants included in column 12.	New rental settled for tenants in column 12.	NUMBERS OF DECISIONS APPEALED AGAINST TO SPECIAL JUDGE.			NUMBER OF APPRAISALS DECIDED.			NUMBER OF DECISIONS OF REVENUE OFFICERS AS IN COLUMN 20—	REMARKS. (State here the grounds on which fair rent decisions are appealed against or impugned in appeal and summarise orders of courts of appeal.)																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
			During the year.			Total.			To end of previous year.			Total.			To end of previous year.			Total.					To end of previous year.			Total.					Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
			4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21			22	23	24																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																							

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Objections under Section 105 and Disputes under Section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Nature of case.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF.			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF THE MONTH UNDER REPORT.				RE MARKS. (State grounds on which decisions have been appealed against and summarise orders of courts of appeal.)	
		Up to the end of the previous month, including cases pending on 30th September of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending on 30th September of preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
											Upheld.	Modified.		Reversed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Babu Pyari Mohan Basu, Settlement Officer.		GOVERNMENT ESTATES.												
	(1) Objections heard and considered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	(2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	23	14	37	...	33	33	4	12	1	1	...	...	...
	(3) Execution of decrees	...	1	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		23	15	38	...	34	34	4	12	1	1	...	...	...
		WARDS' ESTATES.												
	<i>Dakhinshabazpur Estates.</i>													
	(1) Execution of decrees	13	17	30	...	30	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	<i>Sreerampur Estates.</i>													
	(1) Execution of decrees	5	4	9	...	9	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		18	21	39	...	39	39	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		PRIVATE ESTATES OTHER THAN WARDS' ESTATES.												
	<i>Chiknikandi.</i>													
	(1) Disputes under section 106	...	14	14	...	...	...	14*	...	...	...	...	...	...

In addition to the cases shown in this return the following miscellaneous objections were received and disposed of during the year:—

Government Estates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	487
Chiknikandi	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	217
Taluk Krishna Ram Sen	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Taterkati estates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
														725

* Probably some of these objections were objections made after draft publication. The Settlement Officer should have returned such objections as made under section 105 of the Tenancy Act.

W. C. M.

GOVERNMENT ESTATES.

Settlement Officer's Annual Financial Statement.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment (against each sub-head.)	Expenditure to end of the previous year (against each sub-head.)	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head.)	Balance remaining (against each sub-head.)	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Pay and special allowance of—	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Settlement Officer	...	4,879 10 1	3,156 1 4	...	
Assistant Settlement Officers	...	...	...	...	
2. Fixed establishment	...	1,632 1 4	1,113 10 1	...	
3. Temporary establishment	...	5,185 11 11	3,629 5 3	...	
4. Contract and job work	...	9,592 12 10	6,255 0 5	...	
5. Travelling allowance—					
Of officers	...	1,315 0 0	678 6 0	...	
Of establishment	52,841 1 3	882 7 6	670 0 0	9,913 14 1	
6. Supplies and services—					
Forms	...	16 12 9	...	...	
Tents	...	...	135 8 0	...	
Petty construction	...	...	...	...	
„ repairs	...	...	...	...	
7. Contingencies—					
Hot-weather charges	...	...	...	...	
Office rent	...	...	...	...	
Service telegrams	...	2,371 15 11	1,362 11 9	...	
„ postage charges	...	...	...	...	
&c. &c. &c.	...	...	...	...	
	52,841 1 3	25,926 8 4	17,000 10 10	9,913 14 1	

CHIKNIKANDI.

Settlement Officer's Annual Financial Statement.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment (against each sub-head).	Expenditure to end of the previous year (against each sub-head).	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head).	Balance remaining (against each sub-head).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Pay and special allowance of—					
Settlement Officer ... ..	.....	902 13 3	730 14 1	}	
Assistant Settlement Officers ... ..	.....	.....	.....		
2. Fixed establishment ... ..	.....	213 2 11	217 0 1		
3. Temporary establishment ... ..	.....	757 3 0	327 5 10		
4. Contract and job work ... ..	.....	1,041 9 1	940 2 6		
	17,544 1 11				
5. Travelling allowance—					
Of officers ... ..	.....	265 14 0	63 6 0	}	
Of establishment ... ..	.....	168 6 0	186 14 0		
6. Supplies and services—					
Forms... ..	.....	129 13 9	54 4 0		11,027 10 1
Tents ... ..	.....	.....	.....		
Petty construction ... ..	.....	.....	.....		
„ repairs ... ..	.....	.....	.....		
7. Contingencies—					
Hot-weather charges	}	313 5 1	204 6 3	}	
Office rent					
Service telegrams					
„ postage charges					
&c., &c., &c.					
	17,544 1 11	3,792 3 1	2,724 4 7	11,027 10 1	

TALUK KRISHNA RAM SEN.

	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Pay and special allowance of—					
Settlement Officer ... ..	.....	.....	289 12 4	}	
Assistant Settlement Officers ... ..	.....	.....	.....		
2. Fixed establishment ... ..	.....	.....	181 7 3		
3. Temporary establishment ... ..	.....	.....	275 10 2		
4. Contract and job work ... ..	.....	.....	1,605 1 9		
	9,518 11 0	.....	.....		
5. Travelling allowance—					
Of officers ... ..	.....	.....	122 10 0	}	
Of establishment ... ..	.....	.....	68 8 0		
6. Supplies and services—					
Forms ... ..	.....	.....	9 3 0		6,744 14 6
Tents ... ..	.....	.....	.....		
Petty construction ... ..	.....	.....	.....		
„ repairs ... ..	.....	.....	.....		
7. Contingencies—					
Hot-weather charges ... ..	}	.....	221 8 0	}	
Office rent					
Service telegrams					
„ postage charges					
&c., &c., &c.					
	9,518 11 0	.....	2,773 12 6	6,744 14 6	

TATERKATI ESTATES.

	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Pay and special allowance of—					
Settlement Officer ... ..	}	.....	97 13 3	}	
Assistant Settlement Officers ... ..			.....		
2. Fixed establishment			33 3 9		
3. Temporary establishment ... ..			.....		
4. Contract and job work... ..		.....	167 0 6		
					
5. Travelling allowance—					
Of officers ... ..	}	.....	25 2 0	}	
Of establishment			19 2 0		
6. Supplies and services—					
Forms ... ..			.....		1,003 0 3
Tents	1,362 8 0	.....	.....		
Petty construction ... ..	.....	.....	.....		
„ repairs ... ..	.....	.....	.....		
7. Contingencies—					
Hot-weather charges ... ..	}	.....	17 2 3	}	
Office rent					
Service telegrams					
„ postage charges					
&c., &c., &c.					
	1,362 8 0	.....	359 7 9	1,003 0 3	

DAKHIN SHABAZPUR ESTATES.

Settlement Officer's Annual Financial Statement.

MALE SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment (against each sub-head).	Expenditure to end of the previous year (against each sub-heads).	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head).	Balance remaining (against each sub-head).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Pay and special allowance of—					
Settlement Officers ...	.....	19,978 2 0	25 12 10	.....	
Assistant Settlement Officer ...	.....	.....	3 5 3	.....	
2. Fixed establishment ...	.....	20,943 2 9	146 4 6	.....	
3. Temporary establishment ...	.....	5,222 15 7	.....	.....	
4. Contract and job work ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
5. Travelling allowance—					
Of officers ...	.....	5,050 3 0	.....	.....	
Of establishment ...	56,684 1 10	.....	.....	.....	
6. Supplies and services—					
Forms ...	.....	1,993 7 2	.....	.....	
Tents ...	.....	410 11 0	.....	.....	
Petty construction ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
„ repairs ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
7. Contingencies—					
Hot-weather charges ...	.....	2,902 15 0	8 12 0	.....	
Office rent ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Service telegrams ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
„ postage charges ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
&c. &c. &c. ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	56,684 1 10	56,503 8 6	184 2 7	.....	

SHIRAMPUR ESTATES.

Settlement Officer's Annual Financial Statement.

	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Pay and special allowance of—					
Settlement Officer ...	.....	2,399 4 7	209 0 11	.....	
Assistant Settlement Officer ...	.....	.....	25 5 3	.....	
2. Fixed establishment ...	.....	2,160 10 1	298 12 2	.....	
3. Temporary establishment ...	.....	2,074 5 9	1 8 0	.....	
4. Contract and job work ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
5. Travelling allowance—					
Of officers ...	.....	793 14 0	.....	.....	
Of establishment ...	.....	536 12 0	.....	.....	
6. Supplies and services—	9,469 1 11	.....	.....	.....	
Forms ...	.....	311 14 1	.....	0 0 10	
Tents ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Petty construction ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
„ repairs ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
7. Contingencies—					
Hot-weather charges ...	.....	763 4 0	94 6 3	.....	
Office rent ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Service telegrams ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
„ postage charges ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
&c., &c., &c. ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total ...	9,469 1 11	8,840 0 8	629 0 7	0 0 10	

GOVERNMENT ESTATES.

Statement to be used in Monthly and Annual Report showing the status and rent of Tenants as recorded in the Khatians from commencement of the year under report.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LANDS.					REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class.	Average area of cultivated lands per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per cultivated acre.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Proprietor's <i>sir</i> (<i>nij jote</i>) ...						(1) The statement relates to the Government estates Tushkhali, Heshamuddin and char Krishnapura. (2) Most of the <i>howladars</i> partly sublet and partly themselves cultivate their lands, but do not pay the rent of the khas lands separately. Hence columns 5 and 6 could not be filled up.
2. Held by proprietors, but not true <i>sir</i> ...	75	.....	.....	22,394 7 9	.....	
2(a). Tenure-holders occupying the position of a middleman.	40	228 77	5 72	.....	.....	
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
5. Settled raiyats ...	5,124	26975 88	5 26	1,25,805 2 3	4 10 9	
6. Occupancy raiyats ...	420	1722 58	4 10	7,613 13 2	4 6 8	
7. Non-occupancy raiyats ...	210	682 94	3 24	2,322 3 0	3 6 5	
8. Rent-free holders ...						
Total ...	5,869	29610 17		1,58,136 10 2		

CHIKNIKANDI.

Statement to be used in Monthly and Annual Reports showing the status and rent of Tenants as recorded in the Khatians from commencement of the year under report.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LANDS.					REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class.	Average area of cultivated lands per holdings.	Rent.	Average rent per cultivated acre.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Proprietor's sir (ntj jote)		Acos.	Acos.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Most of the howladors party sublet and partly themselves cultivate their lands, but do not pay the rent of the khas lands separately. Hence columns 5 and 6 could not be filled up.
2. Held by proprietors, but not true sir ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
2(a). Tenureholders occupying the position of a middleman.	317	.....	.....	4,620 4 7	.....	
3. In cultivating possession of tenureholders.	291	2,146'65	7'37	.....	.....	
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
5. Settled raiyats	681	1,378'96	2'76	6,729 6 4	3 9 2	
6. Occupancy raiyats	11	62'94	5'72	144 7 10	2 4 9	
7. Non-occupancy raiyats	150	493'35	3'32	2,122 12 3	4 4 0	
8. Rent-free holders	85	23'59	27	.....	.....	
Total	1,535	4,609'49		16,616 15 0		

H. M. BASU,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX IX.

No. 212S., dated Noakhali, the 14th October 1897.

From—S. K. AGASTI, Esq., Collector, Noakhali,
To—The Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.

WITH reference to your Circular No. 45S. of the 1st September 1897, on the subject of the annual report for the year ending the 30th September 1897, I have the honour to forward herewith the report drawn up by the Settlement Officer, Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta. The report has been carefully prepared. I have made a few marginal remarks. Both the Settlement Officer and the Assistant Settlement Officer have done excellent work in the year under report.

Dated Noakhali, the 24th September 1897.

From—BABU BHUPENDRA NATH GUPTA, Settlement Officer, Noakhali,
To—The Collector of Noakhali.

WITH reference to Circular No. 45S. of the Director of Land Records, dated the 1st September 1897, I have the honour to submit herewith the annual report of the Noakhali Settlements for the year ending the 30th September 1897, for favour of forwarding it to Director of Land Records with your own remarks.

2. *Notifications.*—This report deals only with the five Government Estates which were brought under the scope of the provisions of Chapter X of the Tenancy Act on the authority of Government Notification No. 3416L.R., dated the 24th August 1896. The estates are Char Badu bearing tauzi No. 1666, Char Lakhi bearing tauzi, No. 1669, Char Rohim bearing tauzi No. 1665, Char Alexander bearing tauzi No. 1686, and Char Bharat Sen bearing tauzi No. 1673 in the district of Noakhali.

3. *Area under Survey and Settlement.*—The area which has been surveyed and for which a record of rights is being framed is 68·15 square miles, comprised in five villages divided up into 37 blocks containing 40,818 plots and 6,636 tenancies. The average size of a tenancy is 6·5 acres. The average number of plots contained in a tenancy is 6·2. The figures it will be seen, will differ slightly from those given in former reports. The present figures are based on the new facts disclosed by the survey of the tracts by the professional agency and may be presumed to be fairly correct. Of these five estates, Badu, Lakhi and Rohim are situated in the island of Sandwip, while Bharat Sen and Char Alexander are in Hatiya. In none of these estates, the previous settlement was conducted under the Bengal Tenancy Act. In Char Rohim alone the term of the last settlement expired in 1895. In the other four estates the term will expire on the 31st March 1898.

4. *The programme* set out for the settlement staff for the year under report in regard to the settlements under the control of the Director of Land Records was supervision of khanapuri (with the necessary preliminary arrangements) in the five estates mentioned above, covering an area of 68·15 square miles.

5. *Work done.*—The whole khanapuri programme has been carried out. The records of all the five estates have been prepared for attestation and were received in my office on the 16th instant. There are no boundary disputes pending.

The records are incomplete in several respects and they are being now examined in this office.

S. K. AGASTI,
Offg. Collector.

The 12th October 1897.

6. *Staff and tour.*—In order to carry out the above programme I was appointed as Settlement Officer by Government Notification No. 4906L.R., dated the 1st December 1896. Babu Sarat Chandra Bose, Kanungo was appointed as my assistant by Notification No. 14907 of same date. It was at first contemplated that I should have charge only of the five estates under the control of the Director of Land Records. The Collector of the district having represented that it would not be well to have two Settlement Officers working in the same district, independently of each other, the Director of Land Records approved the proposal of all the settlements in the District being placed under my charge, by his letter No. 2611S., dated the 7th November 1896. In accordance with the Government letter quoted above, both myself and my assistant were to revert to general duty in the recess season. For the purpose of carrying through some important boundary demarcations and some petty settlements the, Assistant Settlement Officer was permitted to remain on during the recess months. The extra expenditure has been, I venture to think, justified by the work done in the recess time. I reverted to general duty on the 1st May 1897 and came back again to settlement work on the 16th September. During the year under report I was employed exclusively on settlement work for 176 days and was out for 78 days. The Assistant Settlement Officer who remained throughout the year was in camp for 139 days. Besides doing supervision of khanapuri in the settlements under the control of the Director, I had also to do attestation work in the settlements under the control of the Commissioner, to effect summary settlements and to complete some petty settlements under the regulations. There was also a heavy correspondence to carry on during all the time. In addition to khanapuri inspection, my assistant did also some important boundary demarcations and completed certain settlements.

Certainly.

S. K. AGASTI,
Offg. Collector.

The 12th October 1897.

under the regulation. He did fair rent settlement in a small estate and some attestation work in regard to some six petty estates to be settled under the regulations. Before I joined the district, the settlement work was in the hands of a regular Deputy Collector, assisted by Sub-Deputy Collectors and Kanungos. He had under him a permanent establishment consisting of :—

Head Clerk on	...	...	Rs. 50	per mensem.
Peshkar on	...	...	35	"
Head Muharrir on	...	...	25	"
Second Muharrir on	...	...	20	"
2 Orderlies on	...	...	6 each	"

The establishment came to be utilised by me when I was specially deputed to Noakhali settlements.

7. *Survey and initial record-writing.*—It was at first proposed to have the survey done by non-professional agency. The project was, however abandoned when the final decision of Government entrusting the survey to Survey of India party was communicated to this office by the Director's letter No. 2752, dated the 21st November 1896.

Yes. The work has been done without any hitch.

S. K. AGASTI,
Offg. Collector.

The 12th October 1897.

Judging from the celerity and comparative absence of friction with which the survey work has been got through, the course finally adopted may be considered to have been wise and judicious. The high expenditure will be, it is hoped, compensated by the advantage of professional accuracy. The survey and initial record-writing were entrusted to Mr. E. F. Berkeley with a small party under him established at the head-quarters station of Noakhali. During the recess months the Assistant Superintendent of Survey removed to Dacca for supervising the preparation of records. He arrived at Noakhali on the 6th December 1896. and broke up his camp from here about the middle of April last. Besides the survey of the five estates, his programme was a little increased by the addition of some Government estates, covering an area of about 26 square miles. The estates were brought into his programme under the order of the Director of Land Records, dated the 18th February 1897. This meant also some increased work for the supervising staff. He had also in his hands the topographical survey of the chars at the mouth of the Megna, which was sanctioned by the Board's letter No. 84A., dated the 25th January 1897. This survey was undertaken with a view to get a definite idea of the accretion and reformations

This is an important work and was undertaken at my special instance.

S. K. AGASTI,
Offg. Collector.

The 12th October 1897.

going on in the bed of the river and to ascertain the state of development that had been attained by the several estates. As I had nothing to do with the work, beyond carrying on the correspondence, I do not think I am required to say anything about it in this report. The work done under the head is described in Captain Chrichton's letter No. 1560, dated the 30th June 1897, forwarded to this office by the Director's letter No. 1864S, dated the 20th July 1897. It took some time to select amins and khalasis and to make preliminary arrangements. Kistwar work was started about the middle of January. At the outset it was found that the villages were of inconvenient size and one khasra for each would not do. Mr. Berkeley, in consultation with me and with the sanction of the Collector, cut up the villages into blocks in the following manner :—

Char Lakhi	...	...	13	blocks.
Do. Badu	...	...	6	"
Do. Alexander	...	...	8	"
Do. Rohim	...	...	7	"
Do. Bharatsen	...	...	3	"

This division into blocks has been approved by the Director. I have received his instruction for treating each block as a sub-village and for adjusting the old and new rents with reference to the lands in each block. While kistwar was going on, I was on the spot and used my influence in procuring the attendance of the tenants. The tenants made some attempts to have the unsettled lands included in their holdings. The cases were decided on the ground with the help afforded by the previous settlement papers kept in the Tahsil offices. At first the people did not take very kindly to the plane table survey. Very possibly, some village lawyers (of whom there is no dearth in these parts) had put certain precious ideas into the head of the people. They came in a body to my camp and complained that the areas which they could guess from the sizes of the fields on the map now prepared by the amin were much less than what were settled with them. I carefully explained to them the principle of measurement and mapping. They seemed to be satisfied and did not give me any further trouble. Generally speaking, the relations between the survey amins and the tenants continued to be good, and the latter did not use their obstructive tactics to any serious degree. This was due to a great extent to East Bengal amins having been mostly selected for the work who were thoroughly acquainted with the temper and idiosyncrasies of the people. As the khanapuri work was started at the latter end of February last and was completed within March last (so far at least as the principal estates Badu and Lakhi were concerned) there was necessarily some hurrying through. Doubtless, in view of the peculiar difficulties of the islands the work would not be properly dragged beyond the 15th of April at the most. It was, however, unfortunate that the work could not

The men were carefully selected and well handled.

S. K. AGASTI,
Offg. Collector.

The 12th October 1897.

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be commenced earlier than the end of February. The average size of the field had raised some discussion. It will be observed that in Char Lakhi it works out to 1.4 per acre and in Badu to 1.5 per acre. The field is of a much larger size in the other estate. While I was on the spot at the time of kistwar I availed of the opportunity afforded me to study the origin and incidents of the different grades of tenancies, with the assistance of the Sub-Tehsildar. As the result of my enquiries, I submitted a note to Collector and to Director on the subject early in February. I also drew up a manual of khanapuri rules, in consultation with Mr. Berkeley, and under the instructions of the Collector. This was approved by the Director with small modifications. The rules were then translated into vernacular (care was taken to use the terms most familiar to the people) and circulated amongst

Good.
S. K. AGASTI,
Offg. Collector.

The 12th October 1897.

the amins. The inspection of khanapuri was, I must confess, not of a difficult nature. The disputes were simple in character and few in number. The total number of plots in all the five estates is 40,818. The number of disputes in dispute lists is 342. The proportion of the number of disputes to the number of plots is therefore as 1:119. This compares very favourably with the state of things in North Bihar, especially in Muzaffarpur, where the proportion is as 1:26. Between myself and my assistant, we managed to check 2,607 plots. Most of the disputes were also decided at the time of khanapuri. The number of plots inspected fell far short of what was expected. As khanapuri was practically commenced and concluded in the principal estate within the short period of a month or thereabout, the return of khanapuri inspection necessarily suffered very much. I am, however, glad to record that each amin was visited about thrice during the time and full instructions were entered in the note-sheet for their guidance. The Assistant Superintendent of Survey was, perhaps, too handicapped by office work to go out on inspection tours. In fact, he could not go out except once for five days. I had, therefore, to do without his most effective supervision. Owing to his constant absence at head-quarters, I had to arrange with him to punish his subordinates out in the field directly and then to report the matter to him. The result, otherwise, would have been, I fear, disastrous. Several amins were variously punished. One was dismissed in the beginning

Noted.
S. K. AGASTI,
Offg. Collector.

The 12th October 1897.

for filling in the khasra from his house. All this had some good effect. I have little doubt, nevertheless, that some of the amins had actually succeeded in selling parchas to their best advantage.

8. *Forms*—The question of tenure-holder's khatian form had for some time engrossed the attention of the Director of Land Records. It was finally decided in his letter No. 1438S., that a khewat form (perfectly handy and convenient) should be adopted for the tenure-holders having raiyat under them. The areas were ordered to be entered in the khatian in acres and decimals. It was however suggested that the area in local measure should be entered in the parcha and counterfoil. The ordinary table of local measure in force is as follows:—

1 Drone	...	...	...	...	= 16 Kanis
1 Kani	...	...	...	...	= 20 Gandas
1 Ganda	...	...	...	...	= 4 Karas
1 Kara	...	...	...	...	= 4 Kags
1 Kag	...	...	...	...	= 20 Tils

The usual kani is equal to 1.6 acres. There is, however, a karsa kani which is much less than this. The howladari kani, which is again equal to 7 standard bighas and odd cottas, exceeds it by far

9. *Boundary Disputes*. Seven boundary dispute cases were instituted during the year. All of them were disposed of.

10. The Director of Land Records was pleased to visit the Noakhali settlement about the middle of the February last. The instructions recorded by him have been closely followed.

11. *Future Programmes*.—The programme for the next survey year ending the 30th September 1898, consists of—

(a) Attestation, settlement of fair rent, draft and final publication in an area of 68.1 square miles.

(b) Writing up the final reports and copying the final records.

This programme indicates only the work in the settlements under the control of the Director of Land Records. It was at first thought that the records would be out of the hands of the Assistant Superintendent of Survey before the middle of August and that we would be able to start attestation work from the beginning of September. This expectation has not been, however, realised. The records arrived here only on the 16th current. They are being checked in this office and the rents payable directly to Government are being entered up. Under the circumstances, it will be clearly impossible to commence attestation before the expiry of the Puja holidays. It is necessary in the interest of Government to finally publish as many estates as is possible before the commencement of the next agricultural year. It will be seen that the settlements of Badu and Lakhi are the most important. It is a matter for serious regret that it will not be practicable to complete them before the middle of March, owing to the intricacies in tenancies and the fighting nature of the tenants (which was exhibited in a very serious manner at the last settlement of 1883, which

was consequently dragged over four years). Even if there be no active opposition, I have reason to believe that it will be impossible to accomplish the final publication of the records of Badu and Lakhi before July. The mere attestation

The work should not be hurried up.
S. K. AGASTI,
Offg. Collector.

The 12th October 1897.

will take about 2 months. The fair rent settlement business will take again 2 months. It will take some time to have the rate-reports approved by the controlling authorities. There must be another 2 months for making the draft publication and disposing of the cases under sections 105 and 106. All this leads up to July. I have, therefore, thought it proper to take up the smaller estates first. If things get on smoothly, I can entertain a reasonable hope about effecting the final publication of the three estates of Bharat Sen, Alexander, and Char Rohim before 1305 B. S. The work in regard to the settlement under the control of the Commissioner have been sufficiently noted in this office No. 142S., dated the 25th July 1897. It will not be necessary to recapitulate it here. It will be sufficient to observe that it is intended to carry on the work in the estates under the control of the Commissioner *pari passu* with the work in the more important settlements under the control of the Director of Land Records.

12. *Collection of statistics about food crops.*—During the recess month, the Assistant Settlement Officer has collected some statistics from the issues of the *Calcutta Gazette* and from the accounts of grain dealers. It is unfortunate that there is no grain shop of long standing in the areas under settlement. I hope to obtain some valuable information from the accounts of the Jail Department.

13. *Budget provision and Expenditure.*—The cost incurred on settlement work is Rs. 10,238-4-10. Statement B shows the expenditure under its various heads. It would be misleading to infer the final cost of the proceedings from the insufficient data at present available. The expenditure during the year under report has been within the sanctioned bounds. A sum of Rs. 11,411 was originally allotted to the district for petty settlements by the Board in their Resolution of the 15th June 1896. An amount of Rs. 5,000 was again provided by Government order No. 1047, dated the 2nd March 1896, for the survey of Badu and Lakhi. Rupees 750 was, however, withdrawn by the order of the Board, dated the 29th September 1896. The total grant for surveys and settlements for 1896-97 was therefore Rs. 15,661. Rupees 7,344 out of this was transferred to the Survey Department to meet the cost of survey. The balance, Rs. 8,317, was therefore available for settlement work for 1896-97. While no portion of it was allowed to lapse, the expenditure till the 31st March last did not exceed the grant. It is hoped that the expenditure will not be considered extravagant, when it is seen that it covers Rs. 1,500 on account of the Settlement office house. The expenditure from the close of the financial year up to date is Rs. 4,109-6-10. The statement B appended to this shows the expenditure for the survey year under the various heads. The budget provision for 1897-98 is Rs. 17,839 (*vide* Board's Resolution, dated the 28th June 1897).

14. *Special difficulties.*—Although I do not apprehend much obstruction on the part of the tenants, some allowance must be made for delay, owing to peculiar difficulties under which we have to labour. The part of the country under settlement is so greatly intersected with rivers and khals that journey on horseback is well-nigh impossible. Boats cannot also go in the khals except at full tide. I am seriously afraid there will be some great difficulty in procuring the attendance of the tenants of Char Alexander, most of whom are residents of Dakhin Shabazpur, and who have to come all the way across the sea. The physical privations are also very great. No good drinking water can be got. Water has to be taken to the island by boats. It is very difficult to get even the most ordinary articles of food. During the summer months the steamer communication with Sandwip is stopped, owing to the roughness of the sea. The danger of crossing the channel which lies between Sandwip and the mainland in a wretched country boat can be very well imagined. The ferry boat ceases to ply during several days in the month and communications with head-quarters

The difficulties of communication are very great indeed.

S. K. AGASTI,
Offg. Collector.

The 12th October 1897.

become few and far between.

85. *Material condition of the people.*—The tenantry of this district seem to me to be a singularly strong body. The prosperity of the tenants of khas mahals is obviously due to excessive moderation in assessment. The rent rates rule high outside the khas mahals. The tenants of this part contrast very strongly with the down-trodden serfs of North Bihar, where it is to be deplored there is no middle class, in the true sense of the term. Another point of powerful difference is the absence of kind rent. The Barga system (which approaches to the Batai system of North Bihar) of letting lands is found only in rare and isolated cases. I think this also contributes a vast deal to the improvement of the material prosperity of the people. The betel-nut trade has had a large share in enhancing the well-being of the people, But it is to be regretted that it is now on its wane.

16. *Miscellaneous.*—There are some important points connected with Noakhali Settlements which it is not competent for me to deal sufficiently within the scope of this report, but which I cannot prevent myself from touching, as they are, I believe, of great utility to the future conduct of work. The matter which should come prominently forward is the vexed question of the status of howladars. As a practical rule, for the purpose of khasra writing, the following was laid down by the Director in his inspection note. "The khanapuri amin shall record in column 7 (the raiyati column) of the khasra the name of the person actually

cultivating the field, unless that person be admittedly (1) a servant or (2) an under raiyat. This rule worked very well at the time of khanapuri, but at attestation time all status questions will have to be determined. In the inspection note, the Director has been pleased to say that the Settlement Officer will have to decide (1) with reference to the provisions of the Tenancy Act; (2) after due regard to what was recorded at the last settlement. Now the point is whether it will be possible to alter the status assigned to the howladar (which it is obviously necessary to do) at the last settlement? Should the status given in the last settlement be presumed to be correct until it is rebutted by evidence? I should venture to think that it will not be safe to attach even any presumptive value to the status already given them. It was expressed by the Board in their letter No. 810A., dated the 27th June 1881,

This, of course, is the only sound principle to follow.

A. K. AGASTI,
Offg. Collector.

The 12th October 1897.

regarding their origin and incidents now in the possession of the Settlement Officer, it is feared too great attention will not be paid to the status recorded at the last settlement. As a working rule, I should venture to suggest that it will be best to work out the status from

I agree.

A. K. AGASTI,
Offg. Collector.

The 12th October 1897.

This is very important and every endeavour should be made to avoid friction.

S. K. AGASTI,
Offg. Collector.

The 12th October 1897.

the question of the subdivision of tenancy. According to the instruction of the Director, the tenancies, if the tenants agree, should be divided according to the blocks into which the

This will, of course, be a matter for future fuller consideration.

S. K. AGASTI,
Offg. Collector.

The 12th October 1897.

one set of tenants and the lands in the other block in the names of the remaining co-sharers of the original tenancy. Numerous co-sharers are the necessary result of the operation of the law of inheritance in this country. As all of them can seldom come to an agreement in the matter of payment, one or two have to pay the whole rent, or the tenure is allowed to fall into arrears. This state of things is inconvenient, both to the tenants (except to those who never choose to pay their own quota of the rent), and to the landlord. In an important settlement of this district, Commissioner, Mr. Oldham, has been pleased, however, to record the following rule for subdivision of tenancy.

"I am opposed to subdividing, unless when it cannot be helped. Subdivisions may only be formed:

(1) On the initiative of the holders.

(2) When the subdivision is necessary to prevent a breach of the public peace (but not merely to prevent private squabbles).

(3) The unit of 10 bighas referred to (mentioned by me in the Khondakar case) as a unit

The state of things in Badu and Lakhi is different from what existed in Char Iswar Roy, in respect of which settlement, these remarks were made by Mr. Oldham.

S. K. AGASTI,
Offg. Collector.

The 12th October 1897.

The matter should be further reported on in view of existing facts.

S. K. AGASTI,
Offg. Collector.

The 12th October 1897.

These two matters must be separately dealt with.

S. G. AGASTI,
Offg. Collector.

The 12th October 1897.

for subdivision is far too small for land described as this estate is; unless for very special reasons the unit should not be under 100 bighas." If tenancies are broken up according to blocks, it will not be, I am afraid, possible to give due attention to the rule prescribed by Mr. Oldham. An authoritative order on the subject is therefore solicited. The other questions of importance are (1) whether section 180 will apply to the char under settlement; (2) whether the uncultivable waste lands, for which no rent is paid by the howladar, should be allowed to remain in their rent-paying holdings. The most important judgment of the High Court during the year affecting settlement work is that in the case of Dengu Kazi *versus* Nobin Kisori Chowdhurani, in which the validity of all decisions passed by a Revenue Officer before the record-of-rights is prepared and published, was discussed by the Full Bench. It was held that the terms of section 106 of Bengal Tenancy Act are wide enough to include the case in which a dispute arises as to the correctness of an entry, which the Revenue Officer proposes to make in the record that he is preparing. The case in question arose before the village was published in draft and was found by the Honourable Judge to be a case under section 106 of the Tenancy Act. The Full Bench ruling seems to require that all disputes at any stage of the proceedings should be treated as cases under section 106. This means that the elaborate procedure of the Code of Civil Procedure for the trial of suits should be invoked even before draft publication. The procedure does not seem to be capable of being reduced to practice. It is hoped that the amended Bill, if passed into law, will remove most of the difficulties that have grown around settlement procedure. Another case of some importance decided during the year is the case of Karim Chaukidar *versus* Sunder Dewa, in which it was held that the right of a non-occupancy raiyat (who does not hold under an express engagement)

is not heritable. If a non-occupancy raiyat has died quite recently and the heirs of the deceased tenant are not found to have exercised any possessory acts over the holding, should the lands be entered in the name of the landlord? If, however, the lands are found in the possession of the tenants' heirs, they will be, of course, recorded, in their name according to the general principle that the record should be framed on the basis of actual facts.

In practice there will be very few such cases in these estates.
S. K. AGASTI,
Offg. Collector.
The 12th October 1897.

A financial statement and two returns about khanapuri inspection and boundary dispute cases are also annexed to this.

I have always considered him a very worthy officer. The Settlement Officer himself worked very satisfactorily.
S. K. AGASTI,
Offg. Collector.
The 12th October 1897.

*General remarks :—*Babu Sarat Chandra Bose, my assistant, is a highly qualified officer and has always borne a good reputation. His experience of the district is great.

BHUPENDRA NATH GUPTA,
Settlement Officer.

STATEMENT A.

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Khanapuri Work.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER EMPLOYED.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH KHANA- PURI WORK WAS COMPLETED.				Number of villages of which khana- puri is complete.	Number of villages inspected by Revenue Officer during the year end- ing 30th September 1897.	Number of amins inspected by Reve- nue Officer during the year.	Number of plots of which the khasra entries were tested during the month.	REMARKS.
				UP TO END OF THE PREVIOUS MONTH.		DURING THE MONTH.						
				Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta, Settlement Officer.	...	5 Villages ...	...	...	.....	...	.....	5 Villages...	5 Villages...	52	1,035	Figure in column 11 represents the num- ber of visits to amin.
Babu Sarat Chandra Bose, Assistant Settle- ment Officer.										56	1,642	

STATEMENT B.

Settlement Officer's Monthly Financial Statement for the year beginning with 1st October 1896 and ending with 30th September 1897.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allot- ment (against each sub-head.)		Expenditure from 1st Octo- ber 1896 to 30th September 1897.	
1	2		3	
	For 1896-97. Rs.	For 1897-98. Rs.	Rs.	A. P.
1. Pay and special allowance of—				
Settlement Officer ...	1,000	2,400	1,800	0 0
Assistant Settlement Officers ...	310	1,200	924	10 9
2. Fixed establishment ...	1,712	1,704	1,611	13 9
3. Temporary establishment, including field establishment ...	595	7,020	669	0 0
4. Travelling allowance—				
Of officers ...	800	2,100	1,531	1 4
Of establishment ...	300	400	403	6 6
5. Supplies and services—				
Tents ...	...	600	228	4 0
6. Contingencies—				
Hot-weather charges ...	45	60	60	6 2
Service telegrams ...	10	20	7	1 0
" postage charges ...	75	75	0	5 6
Other items ...	2,270	2,260	3,002	3 10
Total ...	7,117	17,839	10,238	4 10

STATEMENT C.

Settlement Officer's Monthly Return of Boundary Disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act during the year ending with 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF.			NUMBER REMAINING AT THE END OF THE MONTH.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE MONTH UNDER REPORT.					
	From the beginning of the year (1st October 1896) including cases pending on 30th September 1897.	During the month.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending from preceding year.	Decided.	NUMBER OF CASES IN WHICH THE DECISION OF THE REVENUE OFFICER HAS BEEN—			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
Babu Bhupendra Nath Gupta, Settlement Officer. Babu Sarat Chandra Bose, Assistant Settlement Officer.	7	..	7	.....	5 2	5 2	.....	.....	..	..	..	..	

BHUPENDRA NATH GUPTA,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX X.

No. 2274G., dated Arrah, the 16th October 1897.

From—J. WINDSOR, Esq., Collector of Shahabad,
To—The Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.

WITH reference to your Circular No. 45S., dated 1st ultimo, on the subject of the annual report, I have the honour to submit my report on settlement and land records of the 15 Government estates in this district under settlement under the Bengal Tenancy Act for the year ending 30th September 1897, together with the requisite statistical returns in the prescribed forms.

I.—General information.—Settlement under Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act VIII of 1885 (B.C.) of these 15 Government estates were first ordered in Government Notification No. 270L.R., dated 14th January 1895, issued under section 101 (2) (c) of the Act. Settlement of these estates was again notified in the *Calcutta Gazette* in Government Notification No. 1224L.R., dated 6th March 1896, issued under section 101 (2) (d), Chapter X of the Tenancy Act, VIII of 1885. The names and tauzi numbers of the estates under settlement are given in Appendix I.

II.—Area dealt with.—These 15 estates are comprised in 20 villages with an area of 18.32 square miles and contain 958 tenants against an area of 18.75 square miles and 1,000 tenants as reported last year and are all situated in the Sasaram subdivision, except Bhulkuwa, with an area of 366 acres, which is in the Arrah subdivision. The decrease in area is due to the exclusion of a certain portion of the river Sone appertaining to the district of Gaya, according to the revenue survey of 1844-45. These estates had been surveyed before it was proposed to extend the provisions of Chapter X of Bengal Tenancy Act to them. After issue of the Government Notification, re-measurement of Kothra Government estate was made and the decrease in number of tenants is due to exclusion of rent-free and service landholders, desertion of holdings, amalgamation and subdivision of the holdings.

III.—Staff of Officer.—Maulvi Syed Shere Ali was in charge of these settlements throughout the year except from 28th October 1896 to 3rd December 1896, during which period he was employed on famine work in the Bhabua subdivision. The number of days spent by him on tour during the year was 216 on all purposes, of which 131 were devoted to these settlements.

IV.—Record-writing.—Return No. 4 shows that before the year under report the work of kharapuri of the 15 estates had been completed.

V.—Attestation.—The attestation of these estates was made before the commencement of the year under report. Re-attestation was, however, made before the settlement of fair rents was made.

VI.—Progress made in settlement of fair rent—Settlement of fair rent of 15 Government estates was made and the settlement of rent of 14 estates was approved by you. In one case (Sirampur Bankat), I proposed a decrease in rentals, on the recommendation of both the Subdivisional Officer and the Settlement Officer, but you considered further enquiry advisable. The 16th instant is the date fixed for the joint inquiry ordered in your office letter No. 2083S., dated 21st August 1897. The fair rent settled of the 15 estates comes to Rs. 22,926 against Rs. 19,784 the former rental. There has been an increase of rent of Rs. 3,142 in the present settlement. The increase has been made on the ground of rise in prices, works of improvement executed by Government and excess area found in possession of raiyats. The enhancement has been obtained in nearly every case by amicable settlement. In the case of 8 estates all the tenants accepted amicable settlement; in 2 others all but 1 tenant; in 2 others all but 5 and 9 tenants respectively; in 2 others all but 12 and 23 tenants respectively. These results may be called satisfactory.

VII.—Draft publication of record of rights.—The draft records-of-rights of the 15 Government estates were published during the year, after the due service of notices under Rule 29(a), Chapter VI of the Tenancy Act Rules, and in the manner prescribed by the rules. The Settlement Officer himself published records-of-rights in 13 cases and Babu Jyotish Chunder Chatterjee, Probationary Sub-Deputy Collector, in the remaining two estates.

VIII.—Progress made in the disposal of case work.—There was no case instituted under sections 105 and 106 of Bengal Tenancy Act, VIII of 1885. Nineteen tenants of Chaunki Government estate alone filed before the Settlement Officer petitions of objection to the settlement of rents after publication of the final record-of-rights on 8th September 1897. The Settlement Officer rejected them and ordered that the proper course for them was to prefer an appeal before the Special Judge against his order under Section 108 (2) of Bengal Tenancy Act.* In these settlements, the Settlement Officers recorded full proceedings on the spot giving grounds for enhancement, and prepared assessment schedules. Where the tenants did not accept any enhancement, he recorded their objections and passed orders. His proceedings seem to have been careful and according to law. In no case has any notice been received of an appeal being filed before the Special Judge.

* This would be the tenants' ultimate remedy, but it does not seem to me at all desirable in a Government estate to suggest such litigation. The Settlement Officer or Collector could always revise rents payable by Government tenants, if the rents settled appear to be excessive.

The final records of rights of 14 out of 15 estates in which enhancement has been made

I am glad to hear this. I had not understood that the Settlement Officer had finally published records for so many estates.

W. C. M.

in your inspection report made last December, and I have to acknowledge that Maulvi Syed Shere Ali has done better than I at first thought he would do in getting all the final records-of-rights published before the close of the last Fasli year, so that the new rents can take effect from the now current Fasli year 1305. Three copies of khatians of 7 out of 15 estates have been already written. The distribution of copies to landlords and tenants will be made after completion of writing of khatians of 8 other estates check and comparison.

X.—Progress made in assessment of Land Revenue.—Under the provisions of Act V (B.C.) of 1894, assessment of Land Revenue includes a settlement of rent in Government estates. This may be read with report on headings VI and VIII. The collection of new assessment has not yet been introduced, but it will take effect from the current Fasli year 1305.

I have suggested that the completion reports for each estate should go to the Commissioner for an expression of opinion as to whether the enhanced rents should at once come into effect. The working rent-rolls can, however, be written up at once. See Rule 7, Chapter 13, Part III, of the Settlement Manual, page 102, in anticipation of approval.

W. C. M.

XII.—Apportionment of cost.—The whole cost of the operation was borne by Government, the proprietor.

XIII.—Notice of failure in the realization of estimate of Land Revenue in the forecast.—Rupees 3,187 was the estimate of increase of Land Revenue in the forecast for 1897-98, but Rs. 3,142 has been obtained by a practically amicable settlement of rent. No doubt legally a greater enhancement was demandable, but it is better to make amicable settlement at moderate enhancements than to stick out for the utmost allowed by law.

XIV.—Maintenance of records.—Arrangements will be made to keep the records-of-rights corrected up to date by tahsildari agency under the immediate supervision of the Sub-divisional Officer and Deputy Collector in charge of these estates.

Settlement Officer's financial statements for the year ending 30th September 1897.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment against each sub-head for 1896-97.	Expenditure during the survey year 1896-96.	Expenditure during the survey year 1896-97.	Balance remaining against each sub-head.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Pay and special allowance of Settlement Officer ...	.....	.....	.....	.....
2. Assistant Settlement Officer ...	.....	.....	.....	.....
3. Fixed establishment ...	1,468	1,211	572	896
4. Contract and job work ...	.....	130	.....	.....
5. Miscellaneous ...	244	26	84	160
Total ...	1,712	1,367	656	1,056

SETTLEMENT MANUAL FORM No. 15 (4).

Statement to be used in annual reports, showing the status and rent of tenants as recorded in the khatians from commencement of the year under report.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LAND.				
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class in acre.	Average area of cultivated lands per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per cultivated acre.
1	2	3	4	5	6
				Rs.	Rs. A. P.
1. Proprietors (<i>Sirnijjote</i>) ...	4	20	5 0 0	...	...
2. Held by proprietors, but not true <i>sir</i> ...	1	8	8 0 0	93	11 10 0
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders ...	1	90	90 0 0	361	3 14 4
4. Raiyats at fixed rate or fixed rent ...	8	42	5 1 0	40	0 15 3
5. Settled raiyats ...	824	6,279	7 2 19	21,011	3 5 6
6. Occupancy raiyats ...	49	260	5 0 16½	829	3 5 0
7. Non-occupancy raiyats ...	75	216	2 3 20½	602	2 12 7
8. Rent-free holders ...	35	61	1 2 39	...	...
Total ...	997	6,966	6 3 38	28,926	3 4 7

Settlement Officer's return of khamapuri works for the year ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER EMPLOYED.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH KHANAPURI WORK WAS COMPLETED.				Number of villages of which Khanapuri is going on, but is in- complete.	Number of villages inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of amins inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of plots of which the Khasra entries were tested during the year.
				Up to the end of the previous year.		During the year under report.					
				Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Maulvi Syed Shere Ali.	Shahabad, 15 Govern- ment estates.	20	S. A. 18 206	20	18 206	.....	... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....

SETTLEMENT MANUAL FORM No. 15.

Settlement Officer's return of attestation work including final publication of records for the year ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Number villages in the circle.	Area of the circle.	Number of villages for which records have been received from the Survey Depart- ment.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.				NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT PUBLISHED.	NUMBER OF VIL- LAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED.		
					Number of villages.	Number.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of villages.	Number.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Maulvi Syed Shere Ali.	Shahabad, 15 Government estates.	20	S. A. 18 206	..	20	S. A. 18 206	997	9,059	...	...	...	...	...	20	...	19

Settlement Officer's return of cases under section 104 of the Tenancy Act for settlement of fair rents for the year ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Area of circle.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH CASES HAVE BEEN INSTITUTED.			NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH CASES HAVE BEEN DIS- POSED OF.			NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED.			Former rental of tenants included in column 12.	New rental settled for tenants in column 12.	NUMBER OF DE- CISIONS APPEALED AGAINST TO SPECIAL JUDGE.			NUMBER OF APPEALS DECIDED.			NUMBER OF DE- CISIONS OF REVE- NUE OFFICER AS IN COLUMN 20—		
			To end of previous month, includ- ing cases pending on 30th Septem- ber of previous year.	During the year under report.	Total.	To end of previous month.	During the year under report.	Total.	To end of previous month.	During the year under report.	Total.			To end of previous month, includ- ing cases pending on 30th Septem- ber of previous year.	During the year under report.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year under report.	Total.	Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Maulvi Syed Shere Ali.	Shahabad, 15 Government estates.	S. A. 18 206	...	20	20	...	20	20	...	958	958	19,784	22,926	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

APPENDIX XI.

No. 115, dated Chaibassa, the 20th September 1897.

From—BABU JOGENDRA NATH CHAKRABERTTY, Deputy Collector in charge, Settlement office, Singhbhum,

To—The Deputy Commissioner of Singhbhum.

WITH reference to your order dated 4th September 1897, I have the honour to submit the following report on the working of the Kolhan settlement during the survey year ending 30th September 1897.

2. The programme of work for the year as drawn up and submitted by Mr. Craven in his letter No. 144, dated the 27th September 1896, was the following :—

“The area to be dealt with comprises 172 villages, with an aggregate area of about 250 square miles. The final publication of the rents and the distribution of parchas in the villages measured last season I hope to complete early in December when the measurement work will be taken in hand. I propose to employ about 200 amins if I can get them; and to divide them into two field parties—one working under Babu Jogendra Nath Chakravarty, Assistant Settlement Officer; the other under Babu Balaram Das Gupta, Assistant Settlement Officer, both parties being under my general supervision. I shall also personally lay down during the field season the boundaries between the Kolhan estate and Seraikella, Keonjhar, and Mourbhanj States; as also the boundary between the Dhalbhum and the Mourbhanj State. I expect to be able to complete the survey work early in February 1897. There will thus be time to distribute the pattahs, the record of rights, and the jamabandis before the end of the financial year. In addition to the staff of amins, I propose to employ an establishment of muharrirs to check the areas and rents and to write up and compare the papers as the measurement of the villages proceeds. Unless this be done, it will not be possible to complete the settlement by the 31st March 1897.”

3. The work done during the year under review under the heads of field survey, record-writing, publication of records, attestation and distribution of parchas, case work, &c., is summarised below :—

(a) *Field Survey.*—The area dealt with during the year under report was 281·8 square miles. This was divided between two field parties—one under Babu Balaram Das Gupta, comprising 134·8 square miles and 83 villages in Chainpur, Goilkeria, Kainua, Kuldiha, Rela, Rengra, Bontoria, and Barkela pirs, and the other under myself, comprising 147 square miles and 90 villages in Borpir, Saranda, Latua, and Adjudhia pirs. The time of the Settlement Officer himself was almost entirely taken up this season in disposing of boundary between Singhbhum and the adjoining political states, and in drafting the completion report of the settlement. The following tabular statement shows in detail the work done by each of the two Assistant Settlement Officers under the head of field survey :—

NAME OF OFFICER.	Number of villages.	Number of plots.	Number of holdings.	AREA SURVEYED IN ACRES.				REMARKS.
				Cultivated.	Uncultivated.	Total.	Total area in square miles.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Babu Jogendra Nath Chakravarty	90	54,452	3,105	10,848	83,216	94,064	147	
„ Balaram Das Gupta	83	96,993	5,416	20,654	65,648	86,302	134·8	
Total	173	151,445	8,521	31,502	148,864	180,366	281·8	

(b) *Establishment employed.*—The field establishment consisted of 14 Inspectors and 140 amins. An average number of 48 muharrirs were also employed for doing recess work along with the measurements. One kanungo was employed in demarcating the protected forests blocks, and the other was in attendance with the Settlement Officer when on boundary work and counted the trees.

(c) *Record-writing.*—The following statement shows the work done by each of the Assistant Settlement Officers during the year under the head of record-writing :—

Serial No.	Description of work.	Done by Babu Jogendra Nath Chakrabarty.	Done by Babu Balaram Das Gupta.	Total.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Checking the calculation of areas of—plots	54,452	96,993	151,445	
2	Comparing the khatians with khasras of—plots	54,452	96,993	151,445	
3	Copying the khatians in the prescribed forms—plots	54,452	96,993	151,445	
4	Comparing the fair copies of the khatians with the original—plots	54,452	96,993	151,445	
5	Preparing the original abstract khatian jamabandi of holdings	3,105	5,416	8,521	
6	Comparing the above with the khatians—holdings	3,105	5,416	8,521	
7	Checking the calculation of rent of—holdings	3,105	5,416	8,521	
8	Copying the abstract khatian jamabandi—holdings	3,105	5,416	8,521	
9	Comparing the above with originals—holdings	3,105	5,416	8,521	
10	Preparing parchas of—holdings	3,105	5,416	8,521	
11	Comparing the above with jamabandi—holdings	3,105	5,416	8,521	
12	Preparing statistical statements of villages	90	83	173	

(d) *Publication of records, attestation of khatian jamabandi, and distribution of parchas.*—The draft publication of the records prepared during the year under report and the final attestation of the khatians and distribution of parchas for this and the previous year's work were completed during the months of November and December 1896 and January and February 1897. The following tabular statement shows the work done by each officer in this connection during the year under report :—

Season.	Name of officer.	Number of villages done.	Number of holdings.	Number of plots.	Number of objections disposed of.	Former rent.	Rent now fixed.	Increase.	Percentage of increase.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1895-96.	J. A. Craven, Esq. ...	45	4,024	76,050	6	Rs. A. P. 4,963 13 5	Rs. A. P. 13,537 2 3	Rs. A. P. 8,573 4 10	...
	J. N. Chakravarty ...	256	22,698	4,18,629	148	18,759 3 9	51,949 9 0	33,190 5 3	...
	B. D. Gupta ...	260	23,076	4,36,250	347	20,250 5 6	54,352 4 3	34,101 14 9	...
1896-97.	J. A. Craven, Esq. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	J. N. Chakravarty ...	90	3,105	54,452	26	882 15 7	4,355 12 3	3,472 12 8	...
	B. D. Gupta ...	83	5,416	96,993	55	3,006 5 3	9,742 10 9	6,736 5 6	...
	Total	734	58,319	10,82,374	582	47,862 11 6	1,33,937 6 6	86,074 11 0	179.5

(e) *Case work.*—The following table shows the number of boundary and jote disputes and sale and mortgage cases dealt with and disposed of during the year under report :—

SEASON.	Boundary disputes.	Jote disputes.	Cases of disputed sales and mortgages.	Total.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1896-97	196	1,343	1,414	2,953	

4. Of the 196 boundary cases shown as disposed of in season 1896-97, 37 were with Mourihanj State, 9 with Porahat State, 5 with Seraikella State, 1 with Gangpur State, 10 with lakhiraj villages, and the rest were between Kolhan villages.

5. *Exclusion and demarcation of the Protected Forests.*—The work in connection with the exclusion and demarcation of the excess protected forests was done during the year under report under the supervision of Baidya Nath Roy, kanungo. The total area of protected forests excluded is 135,450 acres, or 211.63 square miles, comprised in 58 main blocks and 107 sub-blocks. These blocks comprised part of 202 villages out of 911 villages of which the estate consists.

6. *Enumeration of trees.*—All fruit trees and all *mohua kusum*, *asan*, and *palas* trees in the estate were enumerated during the year under review under the supervision of Babu Dharmadas Hasda, kanungo, and record of them prepared for each village.

7. The following statement shows the number of villages and amins inspected, number of plots checked, and the number of days spent on tour by each officer during the year under report:—

SEASON.	Name of officer.	Number of villages.	Number of amins.	Number of plots.	Number of days on tour.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1896-97 ...	J. A. Craven, Esq. ...	16	20	424	114	
	J. N. Chakravarty ...	101	111	2,788	110	
	B. D. Gupta ...	84	87	2,162	115	
	Total ...	201	218	5,374	339	

8. The following table shows the expenditure incurred during the year under report:—

Number.	Description of charges.	Amount.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4
		Rs. A. P.	
1	Salary of Gazetted officers ...	15,754 2 11	
2	Travelling allowance of Gazetted officers ...	1,639 15 0	
3	Salary of office establishment ...	4,929 2 9	
4	Travelling allowance of office establishment ...	409 9 6	
5	Salary of field establishment ...	5,116 6 5	
6	Do. <i>thicca</i> muharrirs ...	13,499 4 0	
7	Contingencies ...	3,963 9 1	
	Total ...	45,312 1 8	

9. The two field parties returned to recess quarters in the first week of March 1897. The services of most of the field Inspectors and amins were now dispensed with: a few were retained as office peshkars and muharrirs till the middle of June for the completion of the statistical tables. The Settlement Officer himself made over charge on the 20th May 1897; and myself having had to be absent from the district for the remaining days of May 1897 for going down to Noakhali to give evidence in a Government case, the charge of the Settlement Office was practically left with the second Assistant Settlement Officer, Babu Balaram Das Gupta, for completing the statistical tables and finally making over the records.

10. It will be seen from the above that a larger area had actually been dealt with during the year in question than was estimated, and that works in connection with the exclusion of the protected forests and enumeration of trees were also taken in hand and completed during the year in question in addition to the programme of work submitted. An office peshkar and two temporary muharrirs were entertained after the office was abolished for working out the commissions to be allowed to the village officials and kists for payment of the net Government demand. This register has been completed. The

only work now pending in connection with the settlement is the preparation and exchange of the pattah and kabuliyats, and the preparation of the record of rights. This work will be taken in hand as soon as the forms are received.

11. The following tables show a summary of the field work, record writing, publication of records, attestation of khatians, and case work done during the three seasons during which the operations continued, as also an abstract of total cost:—

(a).—FIELD WORK.

SEASONS.	Number of villages measured.	Number of plots.	Number of holdings.	AREA MEASURED.				REMARKS.
				Cultivated in acres.	Uncultivated in acres.	Total in acres.	Square miles.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1894-95 ...	177	2,91,600	21,412	78,757	41,638	1,20,395	188.2	
1895-96 ...	561	9,30,929	49,798	2,25,476	3,72,134	5,97,610	933.7	
1896-97 ...	173	1,51,445	8,521	31,502	1,48,364	1,80,366	281.8	
Total ...	911	13,73,974	79,731	3,35,735	5,62,636	8,98,371	1403.7	

(b).—RECORD-WRITING.

Number.	Description of work.	Recess of season 1894-95.	Recess of season 1895-96.	Recess of season 1896-97.	Total.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Checking the calculation of areas of plots ...	2,91,600	9,30,929	1,51,445	13,73,974	
2	Comparing the khatians with khasras of plots ...	2,91,600	9,30,929	1,51,445	13,73,974	
3	Copying the khatians in the prescribed forms of plots.	2,91,600	9,30,929	1,51,445	13,73,974	
4	Comparing the fair copies of the khatians with the originals of plots.	2,91,600	9,30,929	1,51,445	13,73,974	
5	Preparing the original abstract khatian jamabandi of holdings.	21,412	49,798	8,521	79,731	
6	Comparing the above with the khatian holdings	21,412	49,798	8,521	79,731	
7	Checking the calculation of rent of holdings ...	21,412	49,798	8,521	79,731	
8	Copying the abstract khatian jamabandi of holdings.	21,412	49,798	8,521	79,731	
9	Comparing the above with the originals holdings	21,412	49,798	8,521	79,731	
10	Preparing parchas of holdings ...	.....	71,210	8,521	79,731	
11	Comparing the above with jamabandi—holdings	.....	71,210	8,521	79,731	
12	Preparing statistical statements of villages ...	.....	738	173	911	

(c).—Attestation of khatians and distribution of parchas.

SEASON.	Number of villages done.	Number of holdings.	Number of plots.	Number of objections disposed of.	Former rent.	Rent now fixed.	Increase.	Percentage increase.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1894-95 ...	177	21,412	291,600	232	Rs. 16,966 2 6	Rs. 43,362 10 9	Rs. 26,396 8 3	
1895-96 ...	561	49,798	930,929	501	43,973 6 8	1,19,838 15 6	75,865 8 10	
1896-97 ...	173	8,521	151,445	81	3,889 4 10	14,098 7 0	10,209 2 2	
Total ...	911	79,731	13,73,974	814	64,828 14 0	1,77,300 1 3	1,12,471 3 3	173.5

(d).—Case work.

SEASON.	Boundary disputes.	Jote disputes.	Cases of disputed sales and mortgages.	Total.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1894-95 ...	114	7	103	224	
1895-96 ...	185	1,568	1,751	3,504	
1896-97 ...	196	1,343	1,414	2,953	
Total ...	495	2,918	3,268	6,681	

(e).—Cost of operations.

No.	Heads of charges.	Total cost.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4
	<i>Salaries.</i>	Rs. A. P.	
1	Settlement Officer ...	30,843 6 11	
2	Assistant Settlement Officers ...	12,546 15 11	
	Total ...		
	Establishment of—		
	Settlement Officer—		
	Clerks on Rs. 50 and less ...	3,082 13 4	
	Servants ...	1,004 8 10	
	Assistant Settlement Officers—		
	Kanungoes ...	4,210 4 6	
	Clerks on Rs. 50 and less ...	2,665 6 7	
	Servants ...	1,670 3 6	
	Field establishment ...	37,590 11 7	
	Establishment for writing jamabandi papers ...	18,017 15 6	
	Total ...		
	<i>Allowance.</i>		
	Travelling allowance of officers ...	4,856 7 0	
	Ditto of establishment ...	1,230 8 6	
	Total ...		
	<i>Contingencies.</i>		
	Purchase of tents ...	2,000 0 0	
	Office or ground rent ...	785 4 6	
	Purchase of furniture ...	377 12 0	
	Cost of mathematical instruments ...	1,604 4 0	
	Office expenses ...	6,074 15 9	
	Probable cost for preparing pattah, kabuliyat, and record of rights ...	398 11 4	
	GRAND TOTAL ...	1,28,960 5 9	

12. The total cost of the survey and settlement, including cost of stationery and forms, is given below, together with the rate of cost per acre and per square mile:—

Number.	Heads of charges.	Amount.	Rate of cost per acre.	Rate of cost per sq. mile.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Rs. A. P.	A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1	Traverse survey ...	47,207 0 0	0 10	33 5 4	
2	Settlement operation	1,28,960 5 9			
3	Stationery ...	2,569 9 0	2 6½	100 13 4	
4	Forms ...	9,519 5 0			
	Total ...	1,88,256 3 9	3 4½	134 2 8	

13. The total estimated cost for the settlement was Rs. 1,52,414, of which a sum of Rs. 1,28,561-10-5 has been already expended, and a sum of Rs. 398-11-4 will be disbursed for completing the work. Thus there will be a net saving of Rs. 23,453-10-3 when the operations will be finally brought to a close.

14. In the course of the operations the survey and record of rights of ten lakhiraj villages situated within the boundaries of the Kolhan estate were made at the cost of the lakhirajdars under the supervision of the Settlement Officer. A survey of all lands within the Chaibassa Municipality was also made under the supervision of the Settlement Officer, and the map and the records were made over to the Chairman.

15. The settlement operations of the Kolhan Government estate were not conducted under any law, but under a set of instructions framed by the Board and approved by Government, so as to meet the special requirements of the tract under settlement. But the procedure adopted was as far as possible in keeping with the settlement laws in force.

16. The completion report of the Kolhan settlement is about to be published. I have therefore dispensed with an elaborate report, and embodied in the foregoing pages, as briefly as possible, such of the information as may be of use to the Director.

No. 817R., dated Chaibassa, the 25th September 1897.

Memo. by—C. H. BOMPAS, Esq., Deputy Commissioner of Singhbhum.

Copy forwarded to the Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal, with reference to his letter No. 458., dated the 1st September 1897.

APPENDIX XII.

No. 397B., dated Muzaffarpur, the 15th October 1897.

From—C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE, Esq., Settlement Officer, North Bihar,
To—The Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.

I HAVE the honour to submit the annual report for the year ending 30th September 1897 of the settlement operations in my charge, being at present conducted in the four North Bihar districts of Muzaffarpur, Champaran, Saran, and Darbhanga, in a part of Gaya, and in the Narhan ward's estate in the district of Monghyr.

2. How far progress has been made in each of these settlements can be gathered at a glance from the statement enclosed. It will thus be seen that Darbhanga is still in the earlier stages; Saran is more than half through; another short field season will complete the attestation of Champaran; while in Muzaffarpur, Gaya, and the Narhan ward's estate nothing remains, but case and office work, computation and recovery of cost, and the general labour incident on the closing up of operations. The Gaya and Narhan settlements will, it is hoped, be completely disposed of by April 1898. Muzaffarpur should not last beyond the early part of the following cold weather, and Champaran will, I expect, be practically finished by the spring of 1899. The famine gave a very severe check to our progress. When in October last it began to declare itself, as a result of Mr. Kerr's local inspection of the area in Champaran set down for attestation, it was found that even by beginning work two months earlier than was originally intended, it would be impossible to expect that more than half the programme could be completed. These expectations were realised, with the result that the attestation of over 2½ lakhs of plots had to be delayed to another field season. With the settlement so near completion our progress has suffered at the hands of the famine most severely in Champaran. In Saran, as a result of inspections made by Mr. Gauntlett and myself, the survey and khanapuri programme was curtailed and confined to one thana, (Basantpur), while in the area set out for attestation, although all the camps started work, most of the Assistant Settlement Officers in charge of them were recalled to general duty in February, so that the programmes of three camps only were carried to completion. It is satisfactory, however, that in both these districts it was found possible to leave arrears in compact blocks, so that the check to progress has been minimised as far as possible. In the case of Darbhanga the impossibility of commencing survey operations in Benipatti and Khajauli, the two thanas in the north-west corner of the district, was speedily recognised. Mr. Hughes after local inquiry reported favourably on the condition of the Samastipur and Dalsingarai thana jurisdictions, and they were notified for survey and settlement. As a consequence of work being started in the south-west corner of the district, it has been found necessary to recast the whole of the district programme. In Muzaffarpur only, of the districts visited by famine, was it found possible by placing all available officers on attestation to entirely finish the programme for the field season. Here, too, as in Champaran, however, no recovery of costs could be made from raiyats, while progress in the settlement of rents also has been affected by the ever-present dread that tenants might be led by destitution to agree to enhancements which, when in a more prosperous condition, they would resist.

3. Still the famine, though it has impeded our progress very greatly, has not been without benefit to this Department, for it has afforded us an opportunity of vindicating our practical utility. Scarcity maps were drawn out by the Settlement office for the districts of Champaran, Muzaffarpur, and Saran, which formed a basis of reference at the conference held by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at Sonepur in November last. I am inclined to think it would be possible to go beyond this with a little trouble and identify with accuracy for permanent use almost the actual villages that are in years of drought susceptible to famine. It appears that in these provinces without a failure of the winter rice crop widespread and acute agricultural distress cannot exist. There has, I believe, been no case where the failure of the autumn or spring crops has called for the interference of Government on any scale. It would be a very simple thing to tabulate from the settlement statistics those villages having little or no arrangements for irrigation, of which, say, 50 per cent. of the net cropped area is sown with rice, and indeed this was partially done in Saran. The villages could be distinguished on the thana index maps, and a Collector could see at a glance in what villages he might expect distress amongst actual cultivators to be severe. This leaves untouched, of course, the great body of labouring people without reserves, whom any considerable rise in prices must drive to destitution. To supply accurate information concerning them must devolve on the Census Department. The census of labourers made in 1891 is, I believe, quite inaccurate as far as it concerns Bihar, and any enquiry into the material condition of the poorer classes must be seriously hampered so long as an approximately accurate estimate of the numbers who live by cultivation, the numbers who live partly by cultivation and partly by labour, and the numbers who live entirely by labour is not available. While the famine was impending, the Assistant Settlement Officers who were in camp submitted weekly scarcity reports, and many of them took much trouble in conducting their inquiries. In Champaran and Saran too officers were lent to the Collectors for a short time to tour round affected tracts and report on their condition, and at the request of the Commissioner of Patna, I submitted to him two notes on the amount of employment likely to be available for labourers in North Bihar from April to September. The settlement crop statistics and statistics of the area under each class of crop were supplied to

the Collectors, and, I believe, found of considerable use. While the famine was at its height, parchas in Champaran, Muzaffarpur, and Saran were invariably referred to before granting advances, and Mr. Carlyle, the Collector of Darbhanga, expressed the trouble he experienced for the want of them in his district. But it was in the acquisition of land for railways and other public works that our records were found of particular use, especially in Champaran, Mr. Macpherson being, I believe, the first Collector in Bengal to base his acquisition proceedings entirely on a settlement survey and record. The preliminary orders on the subject were contained in Government Resolution No. 5133, dated 10th December 1896, and the Board after some correspondence sanctioned the adoption of the settlement scale for land acquisition in view of the abnormal conditions existing. The subsequent procedure was very simple. The Engineers marked down the line on a 2" to the mile index map, and sent it to the Settlement office. The Settlement office prepared traces of all the villages through which, according to the index map, the line passed and skeleton khasras, in which were entered the numbers of plots, names of occupants and the numbers of houses and trees on them. Babu Siva Sankar Singh, the Land Acquisition Deputy Collector, then went over the ground with his amin, who laid down the line on the village map according to the dogbells, measured up any portions of plots cut through by the line, and valued the houses and trees. The Land Acquisition Deputy Collector then marked on the skeleton khasra the plots which fell within the line and returned it to the Settlement office, where all entries of area, &c., in respect of these plots were written up. The Land Acquisition Deputy Collector was then furnished with a statement of the rents paid by the various classes of tenants in the village and with extracts from our transfer registers showing the price paid for lands sold in the village. Armed with this information he was able to assess the land with ease. The procedure might be rendered still simpler if village maps were supplied to the Engineers prior to the survey on which they could without difficulty lay down the line at the same time as they make their own survey. Were this done, it would be necessary for the Settlement Department to furnish the Land Acquisition Department with khasra entries only for the plots actually falling within the line. Babu Siva Sankar Singh being a Settlement Officer of experience worked the procedure, I believe, with the utmost success, and the great advantage of it is that it eliminates the necessity for almost all survey, some of which being usually done by temporary hands under the supervision of a Deputy Collector without knowledge of professional survey must often be inaccurate. In Darbhanga our operations are still in their initial stages, so that circumstances prevented Mr. Carlyle using our department so fully. The whole of the Jainagar-Sakri line, however, was surveyed by the Survey Department on the 16" scale, a survey of which that Department when it comes to do the cadastral survey outside the line of the village affected will, I expect, be able to make use. It will be of great assistance to us too when reducing rents under section 52, Bengal Tenancy Act, on holdings, portions of which have gone into the railway line. In Muzaffarpur the settlement scale was not adopted for land acquisition proceedings, but Babu Bansi Dhar Banerji, the Land Acquisition Deputy Collector, has furnished me with an interesting note on the use he has been able to make of the settlement records, at the same time deploring that the land acquisition scale is different from the settlement scale, the latter being, he says, suitable for all practical purposes. By a preliminary reference to the settlement index maps he was able to detect errors made in the names of the villages and the district boundary as notified in the Gazette. After his own amin had measured the land he laid down the line on the survey traces, and thus ascertained the survey numbers of the plots concerned and their areas. He compared his khasra with ours, and in case of difference as to area or possession inquired and (to use his own words) "invariably found that the entries in the settlement records were correct." Bansi Dhar Babu refers to the ease with which by a reference to the settlement records he could ascertain rates of rent, there being no longer any need to "go through heaps of generally fictitious jamabandis," and owing to these being the correct rates capable of proof, the facility afforded for keeping down the valuation, and, he adds—"During the last five months not a single person disputed the rate of rent or the possession of another man as recorded in the khatians not a single petition of objection has been presented for a reference to the Civil Court under section 30 of the Land Acquisition Act for apportionment of the amount awarded or for a decision as to the person to whom the same or any part thereof is payable." The khewats were of much assistance to him when apportioning the amount payable amongst landlord co-sharers. Babu Bansidhar Banerji concludes thus:—"I need hardly add that it is hardly possible to get accurate measurement made by amins appointed temporarily by the Land Acquisition Department, especially in places where cadastral survey has been made. Since the survey, the raiyats armed with settlement khatians do not trouble to follow round the amin deputed to measure their lands to show him their respective boundaries, as they used to do before the cadastral survey operations. They are now confident that as their rights to particular plots have been recorded by the Settlement Department, they have nothing to fear from the inaccurate measurement of the amins of the Land Acquisition Department. Hence the maps and khasras prepared by my amins were generally found to be inaccurate." This is most gratifying testimony to the accuracy of our records, and consequently to the trust placed in them, but the point to which I want to give prominence is that where these conditions exist, any additional survey by the Land Acquisition Department is a mere waste of labour and money, and serves no useful object—the Engineering Department survey on one scale, the Land Acquisition Department on another, the Survey Department on a third,

There can, I submit, in face of its great advantages, be no reason why the cadastral survey scale, where settlement has been done, should not be utilised for land acquisition. The Engineering Department, I understand, works on two scales—100 or 400 feet to the mile. The survey scale being 330 feet to the mile, one of the engineering scales is less, the other greater than it. In the absence of professional reasons to the contrary, land acquisition would manifestly be greatly facilitated in areas cadastrally surveyed if by them too the scale adopted in the records which form the basis of the apportionment (or a multiple of it) were adopted. The Board sanctioned the adoption of the survey scale for land acquisition in view of the exigencies of the situation. The desire to place on record the advantages of adopting the survey scale in all cases where a survey has been made and the extent to which settlement records can be utilised for land acquisition must serve as my excuse for referring to this matter at such length. I say advisedly that the survey maps should be used in all cases, because although 16" to the mile is the recognised settlement scale, yet all blocks of homestead land and the urban areas of towns are mapped in a larger scale. In Bihar all village homestead and congested municipalities have been mapped on the scale of 64" to the mile, which is little smaller than that used for land acquisition in Calcutta, and I presume this procedure has been followed elsewhere, as a scale too small for the Land Acquisition Department would be equally too small for the Settlement Department, and therefore would not be adopted by professional Surveyors.

4.—Changes in Field and Office Procedure.

(1) *Boundary dispute appeals.*—By Notification No. 1168L.R., dated 16th March 1897, I was vested with the powers of a Superintendent of Survey under Act V of 1875, and thus authorised to hear appeals in boundary disputes from the decisions of the Assistant Settlement Officers. I have found these powers of great advantage. They enable me to keep a stricter control over the Assistant Settlement Officers' procedure, and to insist on their reports being sufficiently formal. The appeals are disposed of more quickly, and where re-enquiries are necessary, I can arrange for them to be made by case officers or postponed to the attestation season as found most convenient.

(2) *The arrangement of work by thanas.*—This system has now been fully introduced, and is followed from the very commencement of the operations. The Survey Department after comparing the villages demarcated with those of the Revenue Survey and the Boundary Commissioner's list number them serially from the north-west corner of the thana. The Record-room Registers have been entirely revised, so that the serial arrangement, thana by thana, will be preserved in the Settlement Office, and the finally published records of rights and all connected records and registers will be made over to the Collectors in accordance with it.

(3) *Diara Survey.*—The Government by letter No. 914T.R., dated 12th October 1896, directed the exclusion from survey and settlement under the Bengal Tenancy Act of all diara lands of a shifting character which belong to Government. Any such lands belonging to private parties could be surveyed at their own expense. These orders were considered by the Director of Land Records, Superintendent of Settlement-Surveys, Bengal (Captain Crichton), and myself at Motihari in December last, and certain rules supplementing them were drawn up and embodied in letter No. 500S., dated 22nd February 1897, submitted by the Director of Land Records to the Board of Revenue. The intention of these rules was to provide a practical means of ascertaining what villages should be regarded as diara and what not, and to arrange for a topographical survey of all villages which would be treated as diara, so as to render the completion of the district map possible and for the cadastral survey and decision of interior disputes in all such villages the property of Government, or in which, being temporarily settled, the Collector desired this. The above procedure has been followed during the year under report, and has worked well. The decision of boundary disputes, however, which is of course necessary whether the estate be permanently or temporarily settled before the topographical survey can be regarded as accurate is a heavy item, while the villages by being excluded from survey and settlement under the Bengal Tenancy Act contribute nothing to the cost. Whether permanently-settled estates topographically surveyed can and ought to bear the cost requires consideration. As the survey too is not made with a view to settlement under the Bengal Tenancy Act, the procedure prescribed by sections 11 and 12 of Act V of 1875 should in my opinion be followed more closely, and this point is now under the consideration of the Director of Land Records and Agriculture. The same question arises in the case of the *mokarrari* villages belonging to the Tikari estate in Gaya, of which the external boundaries only were surveyed. Without a strict adherence to the provisions of Act V of 1875 in these cases, the Civil Court might treat our survey as *ex parte*, and not legally binding on neighbouring villages, thereby much impairing its usefulness.

(4) *Agency for supervising preliminary record-writing.*—It has been the custom in the Bihar settlements to appoint two Assistant Settlement Officers to decide the boundary disputes, test plots, and decide interior disputes in an area of about 500 square miles. During the past field season the Assistant Settlement Officers employed in Saran and Darbhanga decided all the boundary disputes and tested about 1 per cent. of the plots, but of the interior disputes they disposed of only 17 per cent. in Saran and 27 per cent. in Darbhanga. Admitting then the desirability of deciding interior disputes at the *khanapuri* stage, the existing agency for doing so is utterly inadequate. I have quoted at length in the

Darbhanga report Mr. Hughes' remarks on this subject, and he states the case with undeniable force. I do not agree with him in thinking that the postponement of the decision of these disputes until attestation is responsible for the large number of cases under section 105 and entirely for the large number of false and frivolous disputes entered at the instance of oppressive petty landlords, or owing to the corruptness of amins. I am glad to say that the majority of cases under section 105 are brought by landlords, not raiyats, yet raiyats bring against landlords enough to show that they appreciate the value of their rights. Still, although false and frivolous disputes are sure to be numerous whatever happens, since, however, a large number are brought no doubt in the hope of ousting the rightful owner from his possession before attestation, there is reason to believe that a prompt decision of disputes would result in a considerable reduction in the number filed, while the raiyats would enjoy a much-increased peace of mind, and, generally speaking, the operations would be less unsettling. Mr. Hughes suggests that the extra cost of employing an adequate staff of khanapuri Assistant Settlement Officers would be largely met by economy in attestation. Here, again, I do not agree with him. An Assistant Settlement Officer would be required for each 100 square miles. Taking the cost per month for his pay, travelling allowance, and establishment at Rs. 250 for five months, the khanapuri inspection of 500 square miles would cost Rs. 3,750 more than it does at present. On the other hand, the staff of attestation Assistant Settlement Officers could not, I think, be reduced. It is not the decision of false and frivolous disputes instituted at khanapuri that take much of their time, but highly-contested disputes regarding rents. It would no doubt be possible to dispense with a few of the munsarims now employed, as correction work at attestation would be reduced, but the saving thereby effected would not amount to Rs. 1,000. The objections, however, to the decision of the bulk of interior disputes being postponed until the attestation stage are very cogent, and the only practical remedy I can recommend for their removal is the employment of a cheaper agency to dispose of them. Without any increase of cost it would be possible to employ three to four kanungos on Rs. 60 to Rs. 85 in place of one khanapuri Assistant Settlement Officer. I should retain one Assistant Settlement Officer for the decision of boundary disputes and interior disputes affecting the khewat. The remainder could, I think, be entrusted to kanungos without danger, particularly as their decisions would be liable to review at attestation, and if wrong would, under our working rules, be brought to my notice. The introduction of this system as an experimental measure in the Darbhanga district during the coming cold weather is now under the consideration of the Director of Land Records and Agriculture.

(5) *Area Slips*.—The disadvantages from which both landlords and raiyats must needs suffer from obtaining no record of areas until they are called up for attestation have long been recognised. The plan of area extraction by amins in the field during survey was tried the year before last in Saran, and having proved a failure was abandoned by the orders contained in Director's letter No. 2405S, dated 30th September 1896. I have now proposed that areas instead of being written on the parchas should be written on separate area slips and distributed to landlords and raiyats at least 14 days before attestation. The scheme with the sanction of the Director of Land Records is now being tried. Mr. Hughes has personally supervised the distribution of the area slips in Darbhanga, and he says that all attend the camp and show the greatest keenness to get them. The success of the scheme is, I hope, assured.

(6) *Working Rules*.—During recess I submitted proposals for the arrangement of the finally published records to be made over to the Collector and for the compilation of statistics for his use. These are now under consideration. The khanapuri and attestation rules have been revised, and complete office working rules are under preparation. New rules have been framed for the correction of records in accordance with decisions under section 106 passed after the records have been copied and for final publication. The latter call for some remark. The practice of postponing the final publication of the whole of a village until the disposal of all cases (section 106) has proved to be impracticable because their being no limit to the time within which cases under section 106 can be filed, it is open to parties to institute these cases so as to postpone final publication indefinitely, thereby delaying and enhancing the cost of recovery. The system has now been introduced of finally publishing all khatians not affected by cases pending under section 106. The khatians so affected are finally published subsequently after the disposal of the cases. This second publication is of no practical use, the communication to the parties of the decision being enough, but the law requires publication to be done 'locally.'

(7) *Accounts*.—The procedure communicated by the Director of Land Records and Agriculture in his letter No. 1T. S., dated 3rd June 1897, has greatly facilitated the proper keeping of accounts. To the Accountant-General of Bengal is now submitted monthly a voucher statement, showing the actual sum drawn from each district treasury, while in the financial district statements submitted to the Director, the expenditure drawn from one district, but incurred on behalf of more than one district is properly apportioned. I have made a further reference, however, regarding the procedure laid down for crediting the cost of stationery—*vide* letter No. 290B., dated 18th August 1897. The treatment of settlement deposits is still under the consideration of the Board, the Accountant-General, Bengal's procedure being quite unsuitable. It would be a great advantage if proper headings were prescribed by the Accountant-General, Bengal, in consultation with this Department for the Settlement Deposit Register kept in district treasuries. At present there is, I understand, no uniformity of method, and I fear sums credited on account of recovery are

not always kept separate from sums deposited on other accounts, and this if so, may render a proper check of recovery accounts very difficult.

b. *Legal Procedure.*—(1) The Darbhanga Raj raised during the year the point whether it is necessary to join all sharers in a holding as co-defendants in a case for enhancement of rent, and from this arose the question as to what entry should be made in the column of the khatian for the raiyats' names, the Raj contending that the name of the principal raiyat only as shown in the Raj rent-roll should be entered. This contention is in my opinion absolutely untenable. We are framing a public record of rights—not writing a private rent-roll, and any person who is found in possession of an independent, though joint share in a holding, must perforce be entered, but that no necessity to join all such sharers as co-defendants is, I think, arguable. It has never been the practice in the Bihar settlement to insist on this being done, and there are certainly practical difficulties. For instance, it would be hard to get all co-sharers, some of whom may be women, to attend court to sign compromises. Then, too, the cost of issuing summonses in cases under section 104 would be very heavy if a separate one were required for each co-sharer. The Raj apprehend that the Civil Court may insist on all the co-sharers entered in our record being joined as defendants in suits for arrears of rents. But as the co-sharers do not owe their creation to the settlement, the Civil Court is very unlikely to depart from its existing practice. The principal raiyat practically holds an unwritten power-of-attorney from his co-sharers for the payment of rents and the transaction of all business connected with the land. If raiyats repudiated this custom, chaos would result, and it would always be open to the Raj to insist on that power-of-attorney being committed to writing. The position taken by the Raj could be sound only in a state of society where primogeniture is recognised, not where the land is held by the "family." The whole question is still under the consideration of the higher authorities.

(2) The only Bill forwarded to me for report during the year was that for the amendment of the Bengal Tenancy Act, and I need not repeat here the opinions I ventured to express with reference to its provisions. The Bill has done away with the Revenue Officer's powers under section 106, but some have urged the advantages of reserving to the Revenue Officer quasi-judicial powers in certain cases, and with reference to this I would beg to point out that in the experience of Bihar Settlement Officers, section 106 is very largely used by unscrupulous landlords with the object of coercing raiyats into agreeing to rents higher than those attested as their existing rents. I would invite attention to the remarks made on this subject in the Champaran report. Where rents have been generally disputed for years, the evidence on which the Attestation Assistant Settlement Officer decides what the existing rents are must needs be very slender, but he is not hampered by legal formalities in recording what he deems to be the correct rents. Similarly, in proceedings under section 105, when raiyats under coercion from the landlord come forward and agree that the enhanced rents claimed are the existing rents, and not the rents attested, the Assistant Settlement Officer has full power to refuse to believe them, and can throw the cases out. But where the raiyats file a regular compromise in cases under section 106 to a similar effect, obviously the position of the Assistant Settlement Officer is a much weaker one; and although Assistant Settlement Officers have been advised to and do refuse such compromises after recording all available evidence in disproof of them, yet the Special Judge may not uphold this action in appeal. In the Madhuban cases referred to in the Champaran report many raiyats, when the agricultural distress was at its height, filed such compromises, but I ordered the hearing of the cases to be postponed. Now, on its being intimated to the raiyats that the compromises would not be accepted, they have mostly come forward to repudiate them as extorted from them by undue pressure, so that there will be no difficulty in hearing the cases and deciding them on their merits. The moral, however, is a clear one, namely, that to hamper the decision of questions of rent at least by a legal procedure redounds as a rule to the advantage of the unscrupulous and oppressive.

(3) *Rulings.*—The most important Full Bench ruling affecting the revenue law published by the High Court during the year is the one in the case *Jowadul Huq versus Ram Das Saha* [page 143, volume XXIV, Indian Law Reports (Calcutta)]. Section 22, clause (2), Bengal Tenancy Act, is interpreted thus:—"The effect of the purchase by one co-owner of land of the occupancy right is not that the holding ceases to exist, but only the occupancy right which is an incident of the holding." The co-owner, therefore, must become a non-occupancy raiyat in respect of the holding, and whether he can subsequently acquire occupancy rights in the holding or not is of no importance, since no one else can, for the actual cultivator of the soil must be treated as an under-raiyat—a class that have practically no rights in Bihar. This is a principle of law which appears to be fraught with very grave consequences. For instance, Mr. Solano, a co-mukarraridar, has purchased 1,700 bighas of land formerly held by raiyats in the Belkhara mahal in Gaya. We have been compelled to record him as a raiyat in respect of it, and the occupancy rights have been absorbed. It is thus open to a landlord to put a stop to the creation of any rights except the shadowy ones possessed by under-raiyats in any of his land sold for arrears of rent. Moreover, his sharers have no power to demand from him a fair rent. Under section 188, Bengal Tenancy Act, they cannot sue him for a fair rent or for arrears of rent unless he too joins in the plaint. It was never the intention of the Legislature that landlords should exercise so great a control over the creation and continuance of occupancy rights, and either section 22 of the Bengal Tenancy Act should be amended or the legal status of under-raiyats strengthened. This section too is not clear as to the continuance of non-occupancy rights that exist. The explanation to clause (3) states definitely that the occupancy right of any one subsequently taking an estate in lease continues, but is silent as to the fate of non-occupancy rights. Suppose A holds land as a non-occupancy raiyat for 7 years, then takes a 16-anna lease of the estate for 7 years, and on its expiry again becomes a

non-occupancy raiyat. When will A acquire occupancy rights? Probably during the term of the lease the raiyati rights merely remain in abeyance, and are not entirely ended, but no clear information on the point is contained in the existing provisions of the law.

(4) The Full Bench ruling by the High Court in the case *Dengu Kazi versus Naba Kishore Chaudhuri* [page 462, Indian Law Reports, volume XXIV (Calcutta)] is also of interest, for it would seem to imply that any dispute decided as an issue in a case under section 104 could not again be re-opened under section 105 or section 106.

6. *Maintenance of records.*—I beg to invite attention to paragraph 14 of the Muzaffarpur report and to paragraph 17 of the Champaran report on this subject, from which it will be seen that the orders contained in paragraph 3 of the Government Resolution on the report of the Agricultural Department for the year 1896-97 have been in part anticipated.

The results obtained by the Sub-Registrars of Hajipur and Bettiah are summarised in the following statement:—

	Total number of khatians.	Total number of mutations.	NUMBER REGISTERED.		Percentage of applications filed to number of khatians.	Percentage of successions to total number of khatians.
			Succession.	Other kinds.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Hajipur ...	57,634	5,941	603	3,510	10·3	1·04
Bettiah ...	52,036	2,016	74	1,942	3·8	·1

It will thus be seen that the percentage of transfers registered to the number of holdings is 10·3 in Hajipur and 3·8 in Bettia, and the percentage of transfers by succession to the number of holdings is only 1·04 in Hajipur and ·1 in Bettiah. Munsarims were deputed to 4 selected villages in the jurisdiction of the sub-registry office of Hajipur to record on the spot the actual number of mutations that have occurred, with the result that the percentage of mutations of all sorts and of transfers by succession to the total number of holdings in the villages were found to be 13·72 and 6·38 respectively. I regret that the percentages of transfers actually registered in these villages have not been obtained; but assuming the average percentage to be applicable, then, taking mutations generally, about 75 per cent. of those that have actually taken place have been recorded, while of actual transfers by succession less than 17 per cent. have been registered. Similar inquiries were made by Mr. Kerr in four villages belonging to the Laheria indigo concern. Over 200 transfers had actually occurred in them, but 21 only had been registered, and these the landlord did not recognise. During next recess I will give full effect to the Government orders, and make more extended and systematic enquiries on the above lines. It is, however, already clear that a very small percentage of the transfers by succession that have taken place have been registered. It is of course true that one who inherits has not the same necessity to safeguard his rights as one who obtains property by other means, and in the case of the former the immediate practical use of an up-to-date record is usually small, but so long as transfers by succession are not recorded, and so long as plots taken from or transferred to raiyats by landlords are not registered, it will be impossible to say that the record of rights is being in any sense maintained. As the Act is administered at present, the tendency will be for parties to record only those mutations the document in respect of which they are bound to register. This being for purposes of maintenance useless would result in parties being put to extra expense without deriving any practical benefit.

After more extended investigations, however, it will be possible to consider whether, without further legislation, a scheme cannot be devised supplementing the present procedure and one which will result in the present Act meeting more fully its real object. There are many defects in the existing procedure. All, however, are, I think, remediable, and it will serve no good purpose to discuss them now, while main principles are still undecided.

7. This report would be incomplete without a reference to the benefits the Bihar settlement has reaped during the year from the co-operation of so able and experienced a Superintendent of Survey as Captain Crichton. Our acknowledgments are also due to Mr. Maenaghten, the Secretary of the Indigo planters Association, for his assistance and support which in our dealings with so influential a body as the planting community contribute in no small degree to the success of the operations.

Messrs. Hughes, Kerr, and Gauntlett, the Assistant Settlement Officers in charge, have continued to work with the same unsparing energy. Mr. Hughes by his thoroughness in mastering details, coupled with no common intelligence and an enthusiasm still unblunted, always affords particularly valuable help in working out the practical effect of experimental changes which are introduced. Mr. Kerr's most striking characteristics as illustrated by his work are great tact, clear-headed commonsense, and moderate views, always expressed in excellent English. Mr. Gauntlett has lost nothing of his fiery zeal and capacity for doing a great deal of excellent work in a very short time. He is still, however, lacking somewhat in method and self-restraint.

General Progress statement Bihar Settlements.

District.	Area in square miles.	Total number of villages.	SURVEY.						ATTESTATION.				DRAFT PUBLICATION.				CASE WORK.						FINAL PUBLICATION.				RECOVERY.					
			Topographical.	Cadastral.		Khanapuri.	Villages.		Khatians.	Plots.		Villages.		Tenants for whom fair rents have been settled.	Number of objections (section 105) disposed of.		Number of cases (section 106) decided.		Approximate demand from landlords, and tenants.	Amount recovered.												
				Area.	Villages.		This year.	Total.		This year.	Total.	This year.	Total.		This year.	Total.	This year.	Total.			This year.	Total.										
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29				
Muzaffarpur	3,063	4,510	....	....	....	4,510	....	3,063	467	4,510	1,07,440	1,034,945	595,403	4,480,927	550	4,363	6,987	16,481	12,576	30,918	770	2,982	1,729	3,000	7,30,000	39,178	11	1	73,229	8	9	
Champan	3,350	2,855	....	....	....	2,855	....	3,350	491	2,255	68,698	402,800	339,511	2,526,815	718	1,972	24,970	94,604	4,050	11,392	914	1,794	891	1,569	7,13,500	81,071	10	10	1,18,567	4	2	
Saran	2,022	4,396	....	....	....	2,761	....	11,476	934	13,142	1,73,319	304,364	820,013	1,702,707	615	1,815	7,168	49,106	6,452	13,595	256	278	998	1,068	8,40,000	50,000	0	0	50,000	0	0	
Darbhanga	3,335	3,440	....	....	....	638	....	638	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	
Gaya (T. W. estate, Govern-ment estate and Balkhar).	533-91	..	....	....	....	753	....	533-91	103	753	10,412	53,826	126,382	660,026	161	753	459	3,472	630	1,075	18	64	247	725	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	
Narhan was	..	..				60		48-19	60	60	11,097	11,097	60,335	60,335	28	28	50	50	2	2												
tate, Monghyr	..	..																														

APPENDIX XII(i).

MUZAFFARPUR—ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING
30TH SEPTEMBER 1897.

Notifications.—The whole district had been notified for survey and settlement previous to the year under report.

An opinion having been expressed by the law officers that the Land Record Maintenance Act, III (B. C.) of 1895, could not be extended piecemeal to the district, it was determined by the authorities that the cost of the operations should be levied under section 114, Bengal Tenancy Act, VIII of 1895. This order was communicated in Government letters No. 1049T.R. and No. 1050T.R. of 6th November 1896.

2. *Programme.*—This included—

- (1) The attestation of 450 square miles of country in the north of the Sitamarhi subdivision surveyed by Mr. Kraal, Assistant Superintendent of Survey, in the previous field season.
- (2) The disposal of objections under section 105, applications for settlement of fair rent, section 104, and of disputes under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act in the areas attested in 1895-96 and 1896-97.
- (3) Draft publication of the records attested in 1896-97 and the final publication of records attested and completed in previous years.
- (4) Completion, copying, final check and comparison of records attested in 1895-96 and 1896-97.
- (5) Computation of all finally published records.
- (6) Recovery of cost.

This programme has been successfully carried through; that for the recovery of cost being the only exception, the reasons for which are subsequently stated.

3. *Staff and tour.*—I held charge as Settlement Officer from the date of my return from special leave on 7th October.

Mr. R. B. Hughes was in direct charge of the operations in the district throughout the year with the exception of two months and twenty-five days during which he was on privilege leave. On his return from leave he was appointed Joint-Magistrate of Muzaffarpur in addition to his settlement duties, and was thus entirely prevented from doing any inspection work in the mufassal during the recess.

The Director of Land Records and Agriculture visited the office in February, and the Officiating Director of Land Records and Agriculture in August.

Nine Assistant Settlement Officers were employed in the district at various times during the year. The annexed statement shows the period during which each was employed and the work on which he was engaged. The sick list was again a long one considering the small number of officers employed. Babu Romesh Chandra Dutt breaking down completely and Babu Charu Chandra Kumar and Chinta Haran Chatterjea being each obliged to take a month's privilege leave owing to ill-health. The continuous strain of attestation work added to the unhealthiness of the extreme north of the district was, no doubt, the cause of these casualties.

Babus Nand Kishore Lal and Nilmoni Dey were each in camp for more than 300 days under every condition of weather and temperature, and Babus Charu Chandra Kumar and Chinta Haran Chatterjea for a few days less than that period.

4. *Record-writing.*—The survey and kharapuri of the district had been completed in the previous year. Two isolated villages on the Gandak *diara* Jitu Chapra and Balirampur, the first of which had been previously omitted from survey owing to the existence of a boundary dispute which involved practically the area of the whole village, whilst the second had been partly reformed by the recession of the river, were surveyed and the records are expected shortly.

5. *Boundary disputes.*—Seven appeals were decided during the year, out of which in five the Lower Court's decisions were upheld, in one modified, and in one reversed. It is a gratifying result that out of 88 decisions appealed against in the course of the operations, 81 were upheld, 4 modified and three reversed.

The number of appeals filed during the operations related to only 6 per cent. of the decisions and orders passed—a result that points to the fact that this portion of our work, which has met with considerable attack, has been on the whole correctly done. In consequence of the inconvenience which arose from the hearing of appeals by the District Collector, orders were passed by Government Notification No. 1168L.R. in March last that they should be heard by the Settlement Officer, and I was vested with the powers of a Superintendent of Survey for this purpose.

6. *Attestation.*—The area to be attested lay in the north of the Sitamarhi subdivision, and contained 450 square miles with about six lakhs of plots. In ordinary years the attestation of this area could have been accomplished by four officers. Early in November, however, signs of the impending scarcity declared themselves, and it was found necessary to reduce

the area of all camps except Camp I, and to form two new camps, so that the work might be completed before the country was overtaken by famine. These new camps were placed in charge of Babu Romesh Chandra Dutt, who had been obliged to stop recovery owing to the scarcity, and of Babu Brij Bansi Sahai. In spite of the fact that Babu Romesh Chandra Dutt broke down in health the work was pushed through, and by the end of the year all villages were completed except five, which for unavoidable reasons had to stand over. During the recess, ten small villages pending from previous years have been attested and eight out of the ten draft published. The amount of *paltidari* and the number of petty proprietors in this part of the district is comparatively small, and attestation was therefore somewhat easier than in former years. The villages of Camp III were almost entirely held by a single proprietor—the Darbhanga Raj. One of the most noticeable features of the work was the large amount of re-measurement found necessary. The number of correction slips sent to the Survey Department for correction of areas reached 3,000, a result that points to very poor *khanapuri*. Mr. Hughes, with reference to these figures, writes: "Until we get more supervision and have done away with the system of dual control, I fear we cannot hope for better results." The most common form of error, however, is for two plots to be mapped as a single plot, and this careful plot testing should detect. The Survey Department is supposed to test 29 per cent. of the plots, and the Settlement Department tested about 1·3 per cent. I fear the work must have been done without due care. The progress of Camp I was considerably delayed by the attestation of what is known as the Chiknauta mahal and of the Camp V by the attestation of the large village of Riga. In both these cases a partition case had been decided after *khanapuri* had been done "*ijmali*," and the proprietors applied for the records to be rewritten so as give effect to the partition made. This having been done, the difficulty arose as to what rents were to be recorded. The proprietors, including the Tikari Ward's estate and the Sheohar Court of Wards, were anxious to have rents recorded (based apparently on the Batwara Deputy Collector's *raihandi*), which would have aggregated to a larger amount than the total *ijmali* rent previously paid. It was only after considerable difficulty that the *ijmali* rents were so distributed to the new estates as to aggregate to the total former *ijmali* rent. In the Chiknauta mahal the attitude of the Sheohar Raja and of the Tikari Ward's estate was very far from satisfactory. Little difficulty was met with in Riga, the proprietors agreeing to the distribution of the former rents, but there were 1,400 disputes. The attitude of proprietors with respect to rents in villages that have been recently partitioned shows up in a very strong light the pernicious results of the defects in the present Partition Act. The proprietors frame *jamabandis* and enter rents out of all proportion to the area of the parts of holdings allotted to them, and raiyats will accept the rents because they have no idea how their holdings have been partitioned, and only discover too late that the total sum of their rents have been enhanced to an inordinate extent. The north-eastern part of the area attested consisted almost entirely of Darbhanga Raj villages. When it was understood that the Raj were going to file cases for the enhancement of rent on the ground of excess area, considerable excitement was caused among the raiyats. The Raj alleged that the measuring rod in use was $6\frac{1}{2}$ *haths* (cubits), the *laggi* recorded in the Collectorate as the pargana *laggi*, whilst the raiyats alleged that it was considerably longer. The whole of this area was surveyed by Mr. Finucane with a *laggi* of $6\frac{1}{2}$ *haths* during his survey of the Darbhanga Raj, but in comparatively few villages only had the areas given by Mr. Finucane been introduced. Some years later an alteration of area did take place in the Raj papers, but these areas were not based on the valuable record which Mr. Finucane had prepared. What happened was this. The difference between the supposed village pole and a pole of $6\frac{1}{2}$ cubits was taken, and the difference per bigha resulting from the difference of poles calculated and added to the former area. Even this was not done accurately, and in consequence it has since been found that the total area of villages calculated thus differs very considerably from the area as found by our survey. At the same time the areas of villages as found by the present survey and by Mr. Finucane tally to a remarkable degree. In some instances, too, rents were tampered with. Then *sharahnamas* were taken from some of the raiyats in which they agreed to a $6\frac{1}{2}$ *hath laggi*. But the conversion had not been done in consultation with the raiyats; that it was done inaccurately is proved by the fact that the areas differ so largely from those of the survey of Mr. Finucane done previously and from those of our survey done subsequently, and the raiyats in many villages do not hold themselves bound by the conversion on the $6\frac{1}{2}$ *hath laggi*. In February Babu Charu Chandra Kumar reported that peons had been deputed by the Sub-Manager to collect rents in a village affected by scarcity, because the raiyats had refused to admit that the length of the *laggi* was $6\frac{1}{2}$ cubits. The cases under section 104 which had been instituted are now under trial, and the Raj claims will be again referred to in the paragraph on recess work. In the adjoining Camp No. II, in which were situated a large number of villages belonging to the Sursand estate, the prevalence of *mankhap* rents was very marked. Under the *mankhap* system the raiyat undertakes to pay so many maunds of grain per bigha. As a rule the *mankhap* is paid on certain specified plots of the holding, usually on about 3 cottahs in a bigha, whilst in some cases the raiyat pays a fixed amount of grain, in addition to his cash rent, on the total area. The rate paid varies from 8 to 12 maunds per acre where lands are held *mankhap*, the rate is so excessive that the system is extremely unpopular with the raiyats. They are reported to cultivate these *mankhap* lands under registered *kabuliyats* which are renewed on expiration. The fact is that the system is looked on as cultivation of lands on behalf of the *malik* from which the raiyat will derive little or no benefit. It is analogous to the system under which raiyats are

in the habit of ploughing their landlords' private lands free of cost. In the case of *mankhap*, however, the raiyat is in a worse position, for he has to pay the number of maunds agreed or whether his crop fails or not. It must be admitted, however, that the evil is a limited one. In the villages which I have selected, in which the raiyats hold an area of 7,633 acres, only 358 acres are held *mankhap* or little more than 4 per cent. The average number of maunds paid per acre is $9\frac{1}{2}$ —a very heavy rent. In three other villages in which a certain number of maunds of grain are paid in addition to the cash rent, I have worked out the equivalent cash rent by dividing the number of maunds paid by the area held by raiyats and converting the number of maunds per acre into cash at the price current for paddy, *dhan* being almost entirely grown in these areas. The results give an average total cash rent of over Rs. 5, which is considerably higher than the cash rent for occupancy raiyats worked out for the Sitamarhi thana in the area and rent rate statement which amounts to Rs. 3-11-8. Pernicious though this *mankhap* system is, it must be borne in mind that fortunately it exists only in that part of the district where rents are low and is assessed almost entirely on paddy land which gives an average outturn, I expect, in ordinary years of 17 to 20 maunds an acre. *Mankhap* is different from ordinary produce rent in that the demand does not adjust itself according as the season is good or bad, and therein the great hardship lies. In the course of their tours the various Assistant Settlement Officers collected a very large amount of information concerning the internal economy of the villages attested by them and of the area in which they worked. On the basis of their village notes they have submitted circle notes which are of considerable interest. The circle note submitted by Babu Charu Chandra Kumar deserves special mention. Babu Nand Kishore Lal quotes a didactic poem composed by native talent describing our operations, the burden of which is distinctly complimentary to the Settlement Department. The author says in it that disputes are decided after attestation, and in practice rule 42 of the attestation rules is, I fear, often thus sinned against. The poem is too long for insertion here, but it describes how the amin sets every one at "sixes and sevens" until the *hakim* comes who saves the situation, and the people go off to their homes with the *parchas*, "blessing the wise English Government." During attestation and when preparations were being made by the authorities to meet the impending scarcity, detailed reports were submitted by the Assistant Settlement Officers on the condition of each village with which they dealt and other miscellaneous information as to stocks of grain available, works which might be undertaken, etc. The Assistant Settlement Officers thus formed a body of useful enquiring officers, and their reports were freely consulted by the Collector.

I think that the number of remeasurements made and the strict adherence paid to the rule that the peshkar was to check the correction of and sign all orders passed in camp has had beneficial influence on our work, and that our records this year have on the whole come back to the head-quarters in a higher state of accuracy than in any previous years. The order passed ousting the munsarims from taking cognizance of information given by raiyats that the lands for which they were recorded at khanapuri were in the landlord's cultivating possession and requiring the Assistant Settlement Officers to ascertain the actual facts by making a local inquiry in each case, operated to a large extent in safeguarding the raiyats' rights.

7. *Recess work.*—The attestation camps were obliged to close early on account of the famine, and it had been hoped that recess work would have been commenced by the beginning of April. Owing to indisposition, however, Babu Chinta Haran Chatterjee and Babu Charu Chandra Kumar, two of the case officers, were compelled to take privilege leave, and the work was not therefore in full swing till the middle of June.

8. *Settlement of fair rents.*—Thirty-four new cases were filed in the area attested in 1895-96, making up the total to 2,977 cases. Out of these, 496 cases affecting 2,831 raiyats have been disposed of during the year. The remaining four cases have remained pending for unavoidable reasons. In the area attested during the last field season, a larger number of cases (2,506 affecting 7,418 tenants) have been filed than in any preceding year. This is doubtless due to the fact that in the north of the district there has been some room for cultivation to spread, and that many of the villages attested were owned by the Darbhanga, Bettiah and Shewhar Raj. The Darbhanga Raj filed 2,298 cases, most of them affecting one raiyat only, the Shewhar Raj 41, and the Bettiah Raj 15. Seven hundred and eighty-five cases affecting 4,156 tenants were disposed of, leaving a balance of 1,721 cases affecting 3,262 tenants. The progress has not been very good; the chief reasons being that a revision of some of the records attested in the Darbhanga Raj area was considered necessary, and that those which have already been taken up present the exceptional difficulties alluded to above, difficulties, too, that led me to consider it desirable to let the cases stand over until the raiyats who wished to contest had recovered from the effects of a bad year and were in a better position to do so. The increase given, 9·3 per cent. of the existing rents recorded at the time of attestation, is moderate. Of three cases filed for reduction of rent on account of reduction of area, a reduction of Rs. 2, or 12·5 per cent., was allowed in one case only. In the few cases which have been taken up in the Darbhanga Raj villages (all are for enhancement under section 52) and which have been contested, reference has been made to the areas of the holdings as recorded by Mr. Finucane twenty years ago, but comparison is now difficult. The raiyats, however, are usually ready to compromise. These compromises are filed by the Raj on the basis of its own patwari's papers and not on those of Mr. Finucane's survey. In some cases it has been found that the total differences in area between the patwari's papers and the areas recorded by Mr. Finucane and at the present survey are so great that no theory but

that the patwari's papers were based on a measurement with a longer pole can account for them. Thus in village Bahmbar, the patwari's papers show 380 bighas, whilst Mr. Finucane's survey and the present bring the area out to a little over 500 acres. When a difference of more than 25 per cent. exists between the patwari's area and the area as ascertained by these two surveys, it is obviously unjust that enhancement of rent should be given on the difference between the patwari's area of a holding and the area as at present ascertained, without an enquiry being made as to the difference in the length of the poles. The Raj, however, are getting compromises filed by raiyats based on the areas as entered in the patwari's *jamabandi*, allowing only one *katha* in the bigha for difference in mode of measurement. Strict instructions have therefore been given to the Assistant Settlement Officer to scrutinise all compromises carefully, as laid down in the High Court ruling in the case of Maharani of Bettiah *versus* Patti Koeri and others. In all cases he must ascertain what the village *laggi* is, and no compromise can be accepted that does not make an allowance which will bring the standard of measurement into uniformity with our standard.

The trial of the large number of cases filed by the Raj will probably continue into December next.

The appeals disposed of by the Special Judge show very satisfactory results. Out of 131 decided up to date, the original decisions in 104, or 79 per cent., have been upheld, 14, or 11 per cent., modified, and 13, or 10 per cent., reversed. In an appeal against the Settlement Officer's decision in a case filed by the Tikari Court of Ward's estate, which holds certain estates in the north of the district in co-proprietorships with the Raja of Shewhar and the Manager, Shewhar Ward's estate, the Special Judge remarked that the evidence was of so unsatisfactory a nature that the appeal (which was one of six heard and dismissed at the same time) should never have been filed. The fact is that the Tikari Ward's estate has been following the example of the other landlords of the district in bringing cases for the settlement of fair rents in the hope that the raiyats will compromise, and, like other landlords, with this object the local representative of the Raj has tried to obtain adjournments on inadequate grounds in the hopes of tiring the raiyats into compromising. This is a difficulty that always has to be faced, but the manager should have seen that appeals were not filed on frivolous grounds. Enhancement under section 30, as was found last year, is hardly ever applied for. If the claim is contested, it can never be proved, simply because prevailing rates do not exist.

The question whether all raiyats recorded by us should be joined as defendants in cases under section 104 is one with regard to which some definite instructions are required and is now under the consideration of the higher authorities. The point was raised in the course of the proceeding for the settlement of fair rents in the Darbhanga Raj. Mr. Hughes writes: "Section 26 of the Bengal Tenancy Act provides that if a raiyat dies intestate in respect of a right of occupancy it shall, subject to any custom to the contrary, descend in the same manner as other immoveable property." Now there can be no doubt about the fact that occupancy rights are heritable in this district. All our records have been prepared on this very assumption, for we are continually recording the joint holders of a holding. Nor is it necessary that the heirs should register in the landlord's *sarishta* (see note to section 26, page 72, Rampini and Finucane). The giving of notice to the landlord of section 73 seems to apply to sales and gifts and other methods of transfer adopted during the life time of the transferor, for the section runs that the *transferor* and transferee shall be jointly and severally liable for the rent unless notice is given. It must be remembered that we are for the present time preparing an accurate record of the persons who enjoy occupancy and settled rights in this district. Even though the landlord argues that their names are not recorded in his papers that is no reason why, when we find that other persons besides those recorded by him have acquired rights, we should ignore those rights in order to save the landlord issuing notices on all shareholders. By so doing we surely ignore the accuracy of the record which we have ourselves prepared. Each individual shareholder is affected by the decision of a case for settlement of fair rent, as by our record we have made him and all of them jointly and severally liable for the rent, and I consider that all the raiyats recorded by us should be joined as defendants. Nor will this increase our difficulties to any considerable degree, for the head of a joint Hindu family is the head of a body corporate and can be sued as the representative of that body. In the case of Muhammadans we shall have somewhat more trouble, but the number of Muhammadans in these parts is inconsiderable. I have discussed this matter in my covering letter. All the sharers should undoubtedly be recorded in our records, but in joining them all as co-defendants there are difficulties.

9. *Objections, section 105.*—The number of objections filed during the year in the area attested in 1895-96 was 4,304. Objections in this area to the number of 8,221 were disposed of and the arrears (211 cases) are now insignificant. An important ruling was given by the Special Judge during the year in the case of Mangal Parshad Singh *versus* Banwari Rai in which he held that no appeal lies to him from decisions in cases under section 105. This point was distinctly raised by me in forwarding the cases. Though this has always been understood by Settlement Officers to be the case, I am not aware that there has hitherto been any authoritative ruling on the subject. In the newly attested area only 5,049 objections have been filed, out of which 4,355 have been disposed of, leaving 694 pending. The number of institutions has been smaller than was expected, but we have to remember that a considerable number of villages (about 160) in which cases under section 104 are under trial have not yet been drafted published. Still I trust that the small number of institutions points to the fact that more pains have been taken to bring the record to a high pitch of accuracy at attestation time.

This hope is also supported by the fact that during check in office comparatively few mistakes in the newly attested records are being brought to light.

Babu Charu Chandra Kumar has kept notes of the nature of 1,167 objections tried by him, and I reproduce the statement he has prepared.

Section 105 objections.

Zirat versus bakast.	POSSESSION.				MONEY RENT.		Produce rent.	STATUS.		Title.	Trees.	Parcel.	Total.	REMARKS.
	Landlord versus landlord.	Landlord versus raiyat.	Raiyat versus landlord.	Raiyat versus raiyat.	Landlord versus raiyat.	Raiyat versus landlord.		Landlord versus raiyat.	Raiyat versus landlord.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
50	95	207	120	66	268	153	84	32	13	4	59	16	1,167	
		488			421			45						
4.28 per cent.		41.82 per cent.			36.07 per cent.		7.19 per cent.	3.86 per cent.		0.35 per cent.	5.05 per cent.	1.38	100	Percentage.

Out of these 488, or 41.82 per cent., referred to possession and 420, or 36.07 per cent., to the money rents recorded.

Of the possession objections 207 were instituted by the landlord against the raiyat, and 120 by raiyats against landlords; 66 by raiyats against raiyats. The figures are interesting as showing that the raiyats have a full appreciation of the importance of having their holdings correctly recorded in our records, and as showing that the rights of the raiyats have been well protected at attestation. On the whole, I am of opinion that in this department of our work we have made a considerable advance in thoroughness. Strict rules were devised last year, laying down the way in which these objections were to be tried, and the writing of full reasons and the holding of frequent local enquiries were enjoined. These instructions have been on the whole loyally carried out, with the result of considerable improvement in the work. The practice of sending records into camp in villages where there are more than ten cases has also been instrumental in securing more correct results.

During the year local enquiries in 1,819 objections were made by the trying officers as detailed below :—

Babu Nand Kishore Lal	...	...	...	817
„ Chinta Haran Chatterjea	...	...	...	394
„ Charu Chandra Kumar	...	...	...	325
„ Nilmoni Dey	...	...	...	210
„ Rai Krishna Bahadur	...	...	...	73
				1,819

10. Trial of disputes, section 106.—The number of disputes filed during the year was 1,309, or nearly double the number filed in the year previous; but on the other hand the number disposed of has increased from 315 to 770, still leaving, however, the large balance of 1,135 pending. It has been found impossible to depute more than one officer for any length of time for the disposal of these cases, and they still constitute a serious impediment to the early completion of our records. We have been compelled to resort to piecemeal final publication to a very large extent. This complicates work and increases cost considerably; but as there is no limit set to the period during which a dispute can be instituted, except the final publication itself, it is necessary to finally publish to impose that limit, otherwise our operations might go on interminably. Most of the cases are now tried in camp as near to the village concerned as circumstances permit. While meeting with opposition from the bar, this procedure is most beneficial in its effect in getting better and speedier justice done.

Babu Charu Chandra Kumar has furnished me with a statement of the nature of 95 cases tried by him under section 106. Twenty-five cases, or 26 per cent., relate to possession (out of these 19 were instituted by landlords against raiyats, 4 by landlords against landlords, and 2 only by raiyats); 35 cases, or 36.84 per cent., relate to money rent, 28 being brought by landlords and 7 by raiyats; and 27 cases, or 28.42 per cent., refer to produce rents. Babu Nilmoni Dey has also furnished a similar statement of 400 cases tried by him. Out of these, 55 per cent. were brought by malik against raiyat claiming higher cash rents, and 18.7 per cent. by raiyat against malik alleging lower cash rents than those recorded. This officer is decidedly of opinion that landlords have recourse to this section with a view to harassing raiyats into recording higher rents than the existing ones, and I am fully of this

opinion. In this district as elsewhere it is found that a number of cases are brought under this section in order to induce raiyats to compromise and get rents higher than the existing rents recorded in the khatians as actually paid. Mr. Hughes writes: "A case of this kind came to my notice last year. Now section 375 of the Civil Procedure Code provides that 'if a suit be adjusted wholly or in part by any lawful agreement or compromise . . . compromise or satisfaction shall be recorded, and the Court *shall* pass a decree in accordance therewith.' Now no raiyat's rent can be enhanced unless in accordance with the provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Act. Where therefore on a compromise being filed it is found on enquiry that it is not in accordance with the provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Act, it seems to me that the Court has full power to reject such a compromise." This is a point of general interest and importance, and I have referred to it in my covering letter, but the chief difficulty lies in the fact that when a raiyat asserts his existing rent to be such an amount, it is difficult for a revenue officer to obtain evidence of it being less sufficient to justify him in rejecting the compromise. It is hoped that one officer will be able to devote his whole time to clearing off the large balance of pending cases, and that Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur, whose office work is now getting gradually lighter, will also be able to materially assist after the end of October. The statistics of the appeals decided in these cases are not quite so satisfactory as those of the appeals against decision in settlement of fair rent cases, but that can hardly be expected.

11. COMPUTATION AND RECOVERY OF COST.—(1) *Computation*.—Owing to shortness of funds and the necessity of deputing all hands for the attestation of the villages which were likely to be seriously affected by famine in the north of the district by April, it was found necessary to close this department during December and January. No harm was caused by this, however, as, with a full establishment working in the remaining months, computation has been able to practically keep pace with final publication, 3,444 villages out of 3,613 villages finally published having been brought into computation, and 1,803 having been entirely computed in addition to the 1,400 villages completed last year. Under the orders contained in Government letter No. 1049T.R., dated 6th November 1896, the instructions contained in Government letter No. 401T.R., dated 27th June 1895, paragraph 8, directing the exemption of non-occupancy raiyats from contributing to the cost of settlement were cancelled, and non-occupancy raiyats are now treated in this respect in the same way as occupancy raiyats. There is no doubt that this procedure is the more equitable. A non-occupancy raiyat gains just as much as the occupancy raiyat by having the length of his tenancy recorded which is gradually developing into that of an occupancy raiyat. Strange as it may appear too, the alteration is most agreeable to the non-occupancy raiyats themselves, for unless they pay for their khatians they do not feel confident that their tenure is secure. Computation has been completed for 732,312 acres during the year, and the cost payable by 67,290 landlords amounts to Rs. 1,76,286-7-6, and by 266,610 raiyats to Rs. 1,08,868-4-6, giving a total demand of Rs. 2,85,154. Calculating the cost directly at 3½ annas for landlords and 2½ annas for occupiers on the area computed, the figures obtained are—

	Rs.	A.	P.		Rs.	A.	P.
Landlord's share ...	1,60,193	4	0	| Raiyat's share ...	1,14,423	12	0
Difference—					Rs.	A.	P.
Landlord's share ...	...	...	...	...	+ 16,093	3	6
Raiyat's share ...	...	...	...	...	— 5,555	7	6
				Total ...	+ 10,537	12	0

This is accounted for by the fact that the landlords pay for uncultivated lands and for cultivated lands held by the landlords in common.

The cost of computing the demand for the 732,312 acres during the year has been Rs. 5,057-12-8. This gives a cost of 1½ pies per acre, as compared with a cost of 3 pies per acre last year, a very satisfactory feature due to the greater experience of the staff and the introduction of contract rates. The percentage of expenditure on computation to cost computed is 1.77 per cent. as against 3.93 last year. The cost of computation must necessarily be larger in Muzaffarpur than in Champaran, owing to the large staff of computers of landlord's share which has to be maintained, many of the khewats in Muzaffarpur containing as many as 350 entries with innumerable "shamilat" parcels of lands, *i.e.*, lands held in common by the owners of two or more estates or *pattis*. The village Barihar in thana Mahuwa is reported to have taken two landlord computers two months to complete, there being as many as 1,000 entries in the tenure-holder's *khewat*.

(2) *Recovery*.—This was the only department of our work with which the famine which visited the district during the year seriously interfered.

We had estimated to collect 1½ lakhs during the year, and with this object a recovery camp under Babu Romesh Chandra Dutt commenced operations in October in the Lalganj thana. Representations were subsequently made to me, and after personal enquiry, I recommended that operations should be temporarily suspended. Babu Romesh Chandra Dutt was transferred to an attestation camp. During the 19 days that this officer was employed on recovery, he realised Rs. 9,402-6 out of a total demand of Rs. 12,709-9-10, or 74 per cent.

No coercive measures have been taken for the realisation of the balance up to the present. The villages will be entered in the programme of the officer who will again visit this thana during the coming field season, and the balances, it is expected, will then be realised. When it was found that there was no likelihood of the Hajipur thana being affected by famine, and that a good *rabi* harvest was assured, Babu Nilmoni Dey was ordered in March to move into that area with a staff for recovery of the demand in all villages in which collections had not been made in the previous year. His programme extended from the 6th to the 30th of March, but with five changes of camps, he had only 19 clear working days. During this period he collected Rs. 17,064-12-8 out of a demand of Rs. 22,735-15-3. He thus collected 75 per cent. of the demand without recourse to coercive measures, a satisfactory result under the circumstances. During the year collection by certificate and otherwise of the amounts not recovered in the camps was continued at head-quarters. In this way a sum of Rs. 12,711-8-5 was realised, but no fresh certificates were issued, and the extreme penalties permitted by the Act were resorted to with great caution in cases that had previously been instituted.

The total collection during the year has been Rs. 39,178-11-1, besides a sum of Rs. 577-8 realised in the shape of process fees. Mr. Hughes writes: "A very satisfactory feature of the year's working has been the reduction in cost. The sum of Rs. 39,178-11-1 has been realised for actual collection at a cost of Rs. 1,420-1-2 only. The percentage of cost to the sum collected has been therefore only 3·62 during the year. Last year the percentage of cost to collection was 9·33, and I think we have good reason to congratulate ourselves on the success which has attended our methods, when this is coupled with the fact that the percentage of expenditure to cost computed has been reduced to 1·77 per cent." While endorsing these remarks, I must point out, however, that out of the total sum realised over Rs. 12,000 were collected from landlords at head-quarters, which ordinarily would have been collected by the more expensive process of a recovery camp, a fact which no doubt has considerably reduced the percentage of cost of collection. Then, too, Mr. Hughes' percentages take no account of the cost of computation. It is difficult to ascertain the exact cost of computing the villages for which recovery has been made. The percentage of the total cost of computing recovery to the sum recovered is 23·2 per cent. for the previous year, 16·5 per cent. for the year under report, and for the entire period 19·6 per cent., but as computation must needs be a season ahead of recovery, and as computation accounts for as much as 68·06 per cent. of the cost of collection, these percentages are subject to considerable modification. We may therefore look forward in my opinion with confidence to collecting our total demand with an expenditure of less than 10 per cent., for with better rules and better system camp collections will be larger. Advantage was taken of the recess to thoroughly overhaul all the recovery accounts, and the village recovery register No. VI affords a most convenient system of check. Some alterations have in consequence been made in the return submitted last year. The end of the year finds us with an outstanding balance of Rs. 11,795 against landlords and Rs. 1,610-12-6 against raiyats. The small balance outstanding against raiyats is significant, as showing the popularity of the settlement, and the extent to which the khatians are valued. Out of the balance against landlords nearly Rs. 2,500 is due from landlords in Lalganj. Steps have been taken to bring the amounts due from landlords in Mahuwa and Hajipur under certificate. During the year correspondence has passed with the Accountant-General, Bengal, as to the forms of registers to be adopted in the recovery camps, and with one minor exception, which is still under discussion, the forms proposed have been approved of by him.

(3) *Certificate work*.—The number of certificates issued during the year was 1,087 as against 1,513 issued in the previous year. The amount collected on these certificates and on those filed before the beginning of the year has been Rs. 4,298-6-7 due from 805 assesses. Against raiyats only 159 certificates were issued in the previous year, and none in the year under report. Practically speaking, the landlords, large and small, are the only persons against whom coercive measures have to be employed. It has been found by experience that the attaching of a certificate department and staff to each recovery camp is clumsy and unworkable, and proposals are now under consideration for all certificate work to be done from head-quarters. The recovery officer will then simply be a requisitioning officer. This procedure will be more in conformity with the provisions of the Certificate Act. There is, too, no doubt that the moral effect of a certificate issued from head-quarters is far greater than that of one issued from camp. Then while the recovery officer will continue to issue special notices and depute a special officer to hold local inquiries and realise from defaulters, so that he will not, I think, suffer from loss of power, the labour and expense of carting a large number of records from one camp to another will be saved, and we will also be spared the somewhat objectionable duty of requesting the Commissioner to invest the very junior officers we must necessarily employ on this work with powers under the Certificate Act. Again since we must necessarily do certificate work at head-quarters during recess, a double set of certificate registers and accounts will have to be kept if the recovery camp also issues certificates, and this will lead to very great complications. Finally, it is certain that when the operations are closed, many certificates will still be pending and then, when the Collector takes them over, the advantages of having all the certificate work in charge of a single officer at head-quarters will be fully appreciated. The arguments therefore in favour of limiting the powers of a recovery officer after all other methods of realization have failed to submitting requisitions for the issue of certificates are very strong, and I will shortly submit proposals for revising the rules and registers.

12. *Draft and final publication.*—Of the villages attested in 1895-96 only five now remain to be draft published, owing to the fact that the cases in them under section 104 have not yet been disposed of. Of the villages attested during the field season, 298 have been draft published, draft publication proceeding where possible *pari passu* with attestation. The number of villages in which cases under section 104 were filed during the year was larger than in any previous year, taking into consideration the area of the part attested, and hence the balance of 159 villages still to be draft published. The total number of villages draft published during the year was 550. In final publication better progress has been made than in any preceding year, more than 1,700 villages with 367,263 khatians having been disposed of. It is very necessary to keep this department up to the mark in order that the computation department may be kept fully supplied with work. The figure of 1,929 villages shown last year as finally published has been reduced by 45, owing to an error detected in the annual returns of 1894-95. Only 897 villages now remain to be finally published. During the year rules for the better regulation of the work were drawn up, and circulated.

13. *Office work.*—The past year has been essentially one of office work as will be seen from the annexed statement. Records of 975 villages with 1,429,715 plots passed through the hands of the check peshkars, 1,278 villages with 1,798,940 plots were copied for the Collector, landlords and raiyats, making a total outturn from the copying department of 5,396,820 plots. Villages numbering 1,578 with over nineteen lakhs of plots were compared and finally checked. Very considerable delay has been caused in the final completion of records by the dilatoriness of which the Bengal Drawing Office has been guilty in returning traces of newly surveyed plots sent there for the extraction of areas. There have been cases in which correction lists have been kept in Calcutta six months. Matters here improved since Captain Crichton arranged for strengthening the staff employed in the work, but delays are still frequent and apparently the working of this department of the Bengal Drawing Office requires attention. A system has been introduced at Mr. Hughes' suggestion by which the *terij* prepared by the Survey Office is utilised for the preparation of the *terij* in our office. The system has worked well in its experimental stage, and it is hoped by its adoption to considerably cheapen the cost of *terij* writing. As pointing to the popularity of our records, I may mention that up to the end of August copies of 334 villages or parts of villages had been taken by private parties (special arrangements having been made for this purpose), whilst in the ordinary copying department 2,313 applications for copies of khatians were complied with, whilst copies of miscellaneous papers on 6,356 folios were also given. The binding of the volumes for the Collector continued throughout the year, records of 1,685 villages having been bound in 1,324 volumes up to date.

14. *Mutation.*—Up to the end of the last survey and settlement year 501 villages containing two lakhs of plots, 63,243 khatians and an area of 93,983 acres had been handed over to the Sub-Registrars of Hajipur and Mohnar. During the year, 78 villages with 12,139 khatians, 57,876 plots and an area of 33,470 acres have been made over. These have been made over, however, so late in the year (on 29th July 1897 and 27th September 1897) that we cannot take them into consideration in examining the statements of applications for registration and of registration received from the Sub-Registrars which I herewith submit.

The Hajipur and Mohnar offices were opened in August and November 1896, respectively. Up to the end of August 5,941 applications for transfers had been made. Sixty-three thousand two hundred and forty-three being the total number of khatians, we thus have 9.54 as the percentage of applications to khatians. Excluding, however, khatians held by proprietors and those for unoccupied or Government lands, the number is reduced to 57,634 which increases the percentage to 10.3. Of the 4,113 transfers registered, only 603, or 13.9 per cent., were by succession and 3,510 were due to other causes and probably include usufructuary mortgages which have been lately held by the law officers as not to be "transfers" within the meaning of the Act. The small number of successions registered points to the fact that the Act is not being effectually worked. At the same time it must be remembered that in Hajipur with its thousands of petty maliks a very large number of the khatians must be in the names of landlords. Under the Act these landlords are not bound to register.

As pointed out in the report submitted last year on the comparison of the revision villages of Mr. Collin's area, this omission in the Act is a very serious one, the landlords being responsible for the greater number of the transfers which take place; and this leads me to remark how useless our mutation registers will be where an estate comes under batwara, and the whole face of the land is changed.

With a view to forming an adequate idea as to how far transfers which had actually taken place are being recorded under the Act, I instructed Mr. Hughes to select four average villages, and to depute *munsarims* to make a record on the spot of all that had occurred. I reproduce the note Mr. Hughes has submitted summarising these inquiries.

"For the purpose of comparison I deputed *munsarims* to four villages in the Hajipur-thana with the records prepared by us in 1894. They were instructed to tick off each khatian in the same way as was done in the preparation of the comparative statistics for Mr. Collin's area last year. I submit in a tabular form annexed the result of these investigations. No account was taken of mortgages, the higher authorities having recently held that mortgages are not required to be registered under the Act.

The number of applications filed before the Registrar and the number of transfers noted by *munsarims* are given below:—

VILLAGE.		Number of applications before Sub-Registrar.	Total number of transfers recorded by <i>munsarims</i> .
1		2	3
Panapur Pehme ...	...	13	11
Rampur Madhau ...	...	1	1
Che ...	...	67	37
Lawapur ...	...	84	80
Total	...	165	129

That the number of applications to the Sub-Registrar exceeds the number of transfers recorded on the spot, can be only accounted for by the fact that mortgages have been registered under the Act, of which we have taken no note. Turning now to the nature of the transfers found on the spot by the *munsarims*, we find that there are 60 transfers by succession, 63 by sale, new settlement 2, resettlement 3, other methods 1. The percentage of transfers by succession to the total number of khatians in the villages, for which figures are given, is 6.38, and the percentage of succession transfers to the whole number of transfers recorded (129) is 46.5.

The percentage of the total number of transfers to the khatians is 13.72. Comparing these figures with the figures given by the Sub-Registrars we have—

	Percentage of total transfers to total number of khatians.	Percentage of transfers by succession to total number of khatians.	Percentage of transfers by succession to total number of transfers recorded.
1	2	3	4
Recorded by Registrar ...	7.5	1.4	13.9
Recorded on the spot ...	13.72	6.38	46.6

These figures are interesting. They show that in spite of the fact that mortgages have been registered under the Act nearly doubled the number of transfers are going on to the number registered. Figures, such as the 1.4 per cent. of transfers by succession as against 6.38 recorded on the ground, show that the Act is not meeting its real object.

Our only satisfaction can be in knowing that something at any rate has been done, but taking these figures for what they are worth, I do not think we can look on working of the Act as a success." I have referred in my covering letter to this important question.

15. STATISTICS OF TRANSFER OF PROPRIETARY AND TENANT RIGHT.—(1). *Transfer of tenant right*.—These statistics have been prepared on the same lines as those submitted last year, and a comparison presents several points of similarity and of interest. Thus, while the percentage of transfers by sale to the number of holdings under consideration was .42 last year, this year it works out to 1.33. In the same way the percentage of transfers by mortgage is larger, 3.29 against 2.49 last year's figure. This is in accordance with my local knowledge of the tract attested; the custom of sale and mortgage being much more prevalent here than further south, where the planters offer every resistance

to it. The statement below compares the percentages of figures for "persons to whom transferred":—

	Landlords.	Lawyers.	Mahajans.	Raiyats.
1	2	3	4	5
1895-96 ...	13	1	9	77
1896-97 ...	4	1	32	63

It is probable that a more strict adherence to the definition of "money lending class" given in the attestation rules has led to this result.

The amount advanced on mortgage again exceeds the amount paid on sale, a circumstance mainly due to the fact that in the case of sale a *salami* has to be paid to the landlord, which reduces the selling price of the land, the amount paid on sale per acre is considerably larger than the figure arrived at last year, probably owing to the better quality of the soil in these the finest paddy lands in Tirhut.

(2) *Transfers of proprietary right*.—I have had a column 4 (a) introduced into this statement to show "number of estates," and have worked out the percentage of transfers to "estates" as well as to "khewat entries." The percentage of transfers to *khewat* entries is 15, as against 21 last year and of transfers to estates 41.

The area transferred is 14.43 per cent. of the villages chosen as against 7.28 last year. Of the transferees, 54 per cent. are landlords, 4 per cent. are of the lawyer class, 24 per cent. money-lending class, 18 per cent. of the raiyat class.

The figures last year were 71 per cent. of landlords, 2 per cent. of the lawyer class, 10 per cent. money-lending class, and 17 per cent. of the raiyat class. The price paid has fallen from Rs. 73 last year to Rs. 60-14-1. This is curious when the fact that the price of raiyati lands sold in these parts is considerably higher than that recorded last year.

16. *Statistics of rent and area* —Figures have now been compiled for 3,323 out of 4,510 villages, and statistics are given for some villages in every thana; the figures for Hajipur and Mahuwa are almost complete. This year's figures differ very slightly from those submitted last year. Hajipur still holds its own with highest rent rate for settled raiyats Rs. 5-2-6. Mahuwa has now taken second place with a rent rate of Rs. 4-6-8.

It is noticeable that Hajipur is the only thana in which the rent rate for non-occupancy raiyats is lower than that of settled raiyats.

This is due to the fact that of the 7,233 acres held by non-occupancy raiyats in Hajipur, 2,424 acres are held by non-occupancy raiyats in a single village at a rate of about Rs. 4 per acre.

The rate of rent for settled raiyats in all villages has decreased from Rs. 4-3-2 shown last year to Rs. 3-15-9 this year.

The ascending scale of rent for each different status is most marked:—

	Rs. A. P.		
Raiyats at fixed rates ...	...	...	3 6 4
Settled raiyats ...	...	...	3 15 9
Non-occupancy raiyats ...	...	...	4 13 9
Under-raiyats ...	...	...	4 15 9

The percentages of khatians held by raiyats of each kind of status to the total number has remained practically unchanged. That 14.47 per cent. of the khatians are held by landlords and 64.51 per cent. by settled raiyats are the most noticeable figures. More than half the lands held by under-raiyats are held on produce rent. Before the close of the operations all statistics will be carefully checked and they will be fully commented on in the final report.

17. *Miscellaneous (1)*.—A case of some importance was tried in the Sessions Court during August last. Certain raiyats of the village of Sirakahi Kanti had during attestation in 1896 filed printed receipts purporting to have been given them by the Kanti Indigo Factory.

Unfortunately for the raiyats there was a printed date on the receipts showing that they had been printed on a date subsequent to the year for the rent of which they purported to be an acquittance. Cases were instituted by the factory under section 471, Indian Penal Code, against several of the raiyats, one of which was committed to the Sessions, where the accused was sentenced to nine months' rigorous imprisonment. Cases of using forged documents in our Courts are unfortunately only far too common. In one case a letter was found by Maulvi Ashfaq Hossein from one of the servants of the Shewhar Raja to a village Jeth raiyat, ordering him to prepare pattas on old-looking Nipalese paper for lands for which a boundary dispute had been instituted. Fulkaha, a village in the north of the district, is notorious for its breed of forgers.

(2) *Land acquisition*.—Some use was made of our records during the year by Mr. Hare, the then Collector, for the purpose of taking up lands for the Hajipur-Begamserai Railway.

The Deputy Collector in charge of the work stated that he has been, with the help of his records, able to make much more rapid progress with the work than he would otherwise have done, but it is to be regretted that the land acquisition in this district was commenced on the scale of 150 feet to the inch before the receipt of the Board's letter No. 212A, dated 11th March 1897, sanctioning the adoption of the scale used by the Survey Department, for thus the great benefit to be derived from our records, viz., that they enable the Land Acquisition Deputy Collector to dispense with a detailed measurement, was lost.

(3) *Use of parchas by the Famine Office.*—When advances were being given for the digging of *kutchas* wells in February last in the north of the district, the raiyats' *parchas* were found to be most useful in checking fraud and preventing payment for the same well twice. Mr. Hare also made considerable use of the *parchas* in granting agricultural loans. Mr. R. W. Carlyle, Collector of Darbhanga, stated that he has keenly felt the want of them in that district.

(4) *Collectorate Revenue Registers.*—Several instances have come to light which show the inaccuracy of the registers in the Collectorate. In one case a village called Chochaha, surveyed as a separate block, was found to have been omitted from the general register A. Mr. Hughes discovered, however, that it had been entered in a register which is kept in the Collectorate record-room under the name of the *said fihrist*. Similar cases are frequently coming to light in Saran district in which estates are shown as *said fihrist*, and entered neither in the revenue-paying nor revenue-free register. The cases are brought specially to the Collector's notice, and we enter the estates in the revenue-paying *khewat* a note being added that no revenue has been paid, but that the Collector does not admit the lands to be revenue-free.

In another case it has been found that the proprietor of one estate bought up the lands of an adjoining estate. During the *khanapuri* the lands of the two estates were found to be indistinguishable. Should the purchaser now default for one of the estates, the auction purchaser would be unable to procure his lands without resorting to the Civil Court. It seems to me that this is a distinct danger to the Government revenue, and points to the necessity for a systematic check of the Collector's registers with our *khewats* when his *Maujavar* register is rewritten.

(5) *Training of young civilians.*—No junior officers were available for training during the year on account of the famine.

(6) *Attitude of zamindars, &c.*—No trouble was found, in spite of the scarcity which had begun to make itself felt before the attestation in camps closed, in getting the raiyats to attend the attestation camps. The Sursand estate is now in the hands of several native lady proprietors with one exception, and everything is left to their subordinates. In consequence a very considerable amount of oppression is practised. The Majhauria and Parsauni proprietors have been specially brought to notice for the good feeling which exists between them and their raiyats. These estates have suffered very little from the famine, owing to the trouble which they have taken to open irrigation channels to their villages. Between Mr. Meyer, the Sub-Manager of the Parihar Circle of the Darbhanga Raj, and his raiyats there has been much friction. I have described in the body of this report how the Raj, having neglected to introduce the accurate survey made by Mr. Finucane in 1879, attempted to make a conversion on its own account which is mathematically inaccurate, and which results in many cases show could never have been based on the actual standard of measurement then existing in the villages, and is therefore discredited. Yet in cases where the area of Mr. Finucane and of this survey converted by a $6\frac{1}{2}$ *hath laggi* work out almost the same, and yet 25 per cent. more than that shown in the Raj rent-roll, it is claimed that the difference is due to increase of cultivation, and that an allowance of 1 *cottah* per *bigah* to cover difference in mode of measurement is fair. I do not think the Sub-Manager has been true to those traditions of the Raj for generous dealing—traditions which it should be the pride of all its servants to guard with jealousy and solicitude. The planters of the district still continue to support us most loyally, and I am in no small measure indebted to Mr. Macnaghten, the Secretary to the Bihar Indigo Planters' Association, for his co-operation.

(7) *Officers.*—Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur has again distinguished himself during the year by his efficient control of a large staff of subordinates in the office. He is exceedingly laborious and energetic, and his intimate knowledge of settlement work makes him a most valuable aid to me. Babu Nand Kishore Lal has worked with great energy, though I consider him wanting in acuteness. Babu Charu Chandra Kumar is still inclined to inaccuracy, but he has worked hard and is full of ideas and suggestions. Babu Nilmoni Dey has shown promise of turning into an able Settlement Officer. Of Babu Chinta Haran Chatterjee I regret I cannot speak well. He seems only able to work under constant pressure. At the same time his health has been far from good during the year, and I think he requires a thorough rest. Babu Brij Bansi Sahai, who was in settlement but a short time, did not impress me favourably.

(8) *General.*—Mr. Hughes in summing up the year's labour writes: "On the whole I think that we may look back on the year with satisfaction. We have been the only district in which the programme has been carried through in spite of the famine, with the exception of cost collection, and in such a year collection, except in the very best tracts, was impossible. We have, however, collected the respectable sum of more than Rs. 39,000. In spite of impediments we have made good progress in office work and have finally published more records than in any previous year. We have reduced the cost of computation by half and also the cost of recovery, and the extreme usefulness of our records has been proved by

the assistance which has been obtained from them by the Land Acquisition Department and by the Collector for the purposes of famine relief."

I will conclude this report by bringing to notice the extent to which I have been indebted to Mr. Hughes for his hearty co-operation throughout the year. He has done his work well and thoroughly as ever, and whatever success has been attained is largely due to his great energy and watchful supervision. This is the last Annual Report that will be submitted for this district, for I anticipate that the operations will be practically closed before the end of the current survey year.

STATEMENT II.

Staff of Officers.

NAME OF OFFICER.	Work on which employed.	Period of employment.	Days spent on tour.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
1. C. J. Stevenson-Moore, Esq. ...	Settlement Officer	From 7th October 1896 to 30th September 1897.	115	
2. R. B. Hughes, Esq.	Assistant Settlement Officer. In charge inspection and general supervisor of office.	From 1st October 1896 to 30th September 1897.	51	Also Assistant Settlement Officer in charge of Darbhanga. Took privilege leave for 2 months 25 days from 17th March 1897. Reverted to general duty.
3. Babu Bhaba Taran Chatterji ...	Case work	From 1st October to 30th November 1896.	60	
4. „ Siva Sankar Singh	Attestation	From 1st October to 21st October 1896.	20	Transferred to Siwan.
5. „ Brij Bansi Sahai	Ditto	From 12th December 1896 to 13th February 1897.	60	Reverted to general duty.
6. „ Charu Chandra Kumar	Attestation and case work	From 1st October 1896 to 30th September 1897.	295	On privilege leave from 20th April 1897 to 19th May 1897.
7. „ Nand Krishore Lal	Ditto ditto	From 1st October 1896 to 30th September 1897.	354	
8. „ Rai Kishna Bahadur	Office supervision and case work	From 1st October 1896 to 30th September 1897.	41	
9. „ Chinta Haran Chatterjee ...	Attestation and case work	From 1st October 1896 to 30th September 1897.	296	On privilege leave from 3rd May to 4th June 1897.
10. Mr. J. W. Engelbregt	Attestation	From 31st October to 14th December 1896.	29	Transferred to Darbhanga District.
11. Romesh Chandra Dutt	Attestation and cost recovery	From 1st October 1896 to 22nd January 1897.	69	Reverted to general duty.
12. Nilmoni Dey	Attestation, cost recovery and case work...	From 23rd October 1896 to 30th September 1897.	325	

STATEMENT III.

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Khanapuri work ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER EMPLOYED.	Name of Circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH KHANAPUR WORK WAS COMPLETED.				Number of villages of which khannayari is going on but is incomplete.	Number of villages inspected by Revenue Officer during the month.	Number of amins inspected by Revenue Officer during the month.	Number of plots of which the khanna entries were tested during the month.	REMARKS.
				Up to end of the previous year.		During the year.						
				Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
.....		..	..	4,510	3,063	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

STATEMENT IV.

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Boundary Disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act ending September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NUMBER INSTITUTED—			NUMBER DISPOSED OF—			Number remaining at the end of the month.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE MONTH UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending from preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
.....	1,473	...	1,473	1,473	...	1,473	...	{ 86 2	81 7	76 5	3 1	2 1	

STATEMENT V.

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Attestation work, including final publication of records ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of Circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	Number of villages for which records have been received from the Survey Department.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.				NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT PUBLISHED.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED.	REMARKS. (Here note adequacy of work done or cause of failure to work up to programme.)		
					Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.		Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Babu Siva Sankar Singh and Babu Nand Kishore Pal.	Camp I " II " III " IIIA " IV " V	104	100'35	104	...	...	...	...	103	98'43	26,916	129,187	...	...	...	...	
Babu Chinta Haran Chatterjea and Babu Romesh Chandra Dutt.		98	77'63	98	...	...	...	...	98	77'63	18,027	102,193	...	...	...	...	
Babu Charu Chandra Kumar.		76	81'75	76	...	...	...	...	76	81'75	15,890	100,346	...	...	...	...	
Babu Romesh Chandra Dutt and Chinta Haran Chatterjea.		64	53'25	64	...	...	...	...	64	53'25	15,365	76,136	...	...	...	...	
Babu Nilmoni Dey ...		62	69'55	62	...	...	...	...	62	69'55	16,013	101,082	...	...	...	...	
Mr. Engelbregt and Babu Brij Bansi Sahai.		53	68'35	53	...	...	...	...	49	55'81	15,829	86,449	...	...	...	...	
Total ...	.....	457	450'88	457	4,042	2,535'04	927,505	3,885,524	452	436'42	107,440	595,403	3,813	550	1,884	1,729	

STATEMENT VI(a).

Settlement Officer's yearly return of Cases under section 104 of the Tenancy Act for settlement of fair rents ending September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of Circle.	Area of circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF CASES INSTITUTED—			NUMBER OF CASES DISPOSED OF—			NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED—			Former rental of tenants included in column 12.	New rental settled for tenants in column 12.	NUMBER OF DECISIONS APPEALED AGAINST TO SPECIAL JUDGE.			NUMBER OF APPEALS DECIDED.			NUMBER OF DECISIONS OF REVENUE OFFICER AS IN COLUMN 20—			REMARKS. (State here the grounds on which fair rent decisions are appealed against or impugned in appeal and summarize orders of courts of appeal.)
			To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.			To end of previous month, including cases pending on 30th September of previous year.	During the month.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Previous year's figures, area 1895-96.	...	...	2,943	...	...	2,477	...	...	9,494	...	...	80,768	87,610	17	...	...	17	...	...	11	2	4	
Babu Charu Chandra Kumar.	...	...	...	...	...	...	49	...	...	646	...	2,587	3,802	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Babu Romesh Chandra Dutt.	...	...	...	...	...	...	148	...	...	201	...	3,759	3,889	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Babu Chinta Haran Chatterjee.	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	...	...	21	...	305	314	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Babu Siva Sankar Singh.	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	30	...	168	161	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Babu Bhaba Taran Chatterji.	...	...	...	...	...	...	173	...	...	1,303	...	7,515	8,067	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Babu Nand Kishore Lal.	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	...	...	243	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Babu Nilmoni Dey ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	292	...	1,088	1,309	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
" Kal Krishna Bahadur.	...	...	...	...	...	...	76	...	...	95	...	2,557	2,782	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Total	...	...	2,943	34	2,977	2,477	496	2,973	9,494	2,831	12,325	98,737	107,574	17	122	139	17	114	131	104	14	13	

STATEMENT VI(b).

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Cases under section 104 of the Tenancy Act for settlement of fair rents.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of Circle.	Area of circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF CASES INSTITUTED—			NUMBER OF CASES DISPOSED OF—			NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED.			Former rental of tenants included in column 12.	New rental settled for tenants in column 12.	NUMBER OF DECISIONS APPEALED AGAINST TO SPECIAL JUDGE.			NUMBER OF APPEALS DECIDED.			NUMBER OF DECISIONS OF REVENUE OFFICER AS IN COLUMN 20—			REMARKS. (State here the grounds on which fair rent decisions are appealed against or impugned in appeal and summarize orders of courts of appeal.)
			To end of previous month, including cases pending on 30th September of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.			To end of previous month, including cases pending on 30th September of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous month.	During the month.	Total.	Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<i>Area, 1896-97.</i>																							
Babu Nand Kishore Lal	...	...	...	...	...	...	637	...	...	1,488	...	20,020	22,328	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Chinta Haran Chatterjea.	...	...	...	...	...	...	114	...	...	2,051	...	13,416	13,798	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Charu Chandra Kumar.	...	...	...	...	...	...	34	...	...	617	...	1,759	1,759	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	...	...	2,506	2,506	...	785	785	...	4,156	4,156	35,195	57,885	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Babu Charu Chandra Kumar.	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	1	39	...	39	...	489	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
J. E. Phillimore, Esq.	...	...	29	...	29	14	...	14	595	...	595	1,487	2,847	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

STATEMENT VI(c).

Percentage statement.

Serial.	NAME OF OFFICER.	Former rent.	Present rent.	SECTION 52.				SECTION 30.		Total increase.	Total percentage of increase.	REMARKS.
				Increase, section 52.	Percentage increase, column 5.	Decrease, section 52.	Percentage decrease.	Increase under section 30.	Percentage of increase, column 9.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Of old area, 1895-96.</i>												
By all officers	...	17,969 16	20,264 14	2,295	12.7	2	12.5	...	...	2,293	12.7	
<i>Of area, 1896-97.</i>												
By all officers	...	35,195	37,885	2,690	7.6	...	...	...	...	2,690	7.6	
Total	...	53,180	58,163	4,985	9.3	2	12.5	...	...	4,983	9.3	

STATEMENT VII.

Settlement Officer's Monthly Return of Objections under section 105.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NATURE OF CASE.	NUMBER INSTITUTED—			NUMBER DISPOSED OF—			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF THE MONTH UNDER REPORT.				REMARKS. (State grounds on which decisions have been appealed against and summarize orders of court of appeal.)	
		Up to the end of the previous month, including cases pending on 30th September of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending on 30th September of preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
											Upheld.	Modified.		Reversed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<i>Area, 1896-97.</i>	(1) Objections heard and considered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act.													
Babu Charu Chandra Kumar ...	268	...	5,049	5,049	Nil	4,355	4,355	694						
" Nand Kishore Lal ...	3,052													
Rai Krishna Bahadur ...	107													
Babu Chinta Haran Chatterji ...	993													
	4,355													
<i>Area, 1895-96.</i>														
Babu Charu Chandra Kumar ...	2,162	...	4,304	26,774	18,342	8,221	26,563	211						
" Romes Chandra Dutt ...	715													
" Chinta Haran Chatterji ...	1,307													
Rai Krishna Bahadur ...	605													
Babu Bhaba Tarun Chatterji ...	736													
" Nand Kishore Lal ...	1,917													
B. B. Hughes, Esq. ...	16													
Mr. Engelbrecht ...	38													
Babu Nilmoni Dey ...	831													
	8,221	22,470	9,353	31,823	18,342	2,576	30,918	905						

STATEMENT VIII.

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Disputes under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NATURE OF CASE.	NUMBER INSTITUTED—			NUMBER DISPOSED OF—			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF THE MONTH UNDER REPORT.				REMARKS. (State grounds on which decisions have been appealed against and summarize orders of courts of appeal.)	
		Up to the end of the previous month, including cases pending on 30th September of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending on 30th September of preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
											Upheld.	Modified.		Reversed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Execution cases 	(2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	27	20	47	10	28	38	11						
	Total cases, section 106.	2,808	1,309	4,117	2,212	770	2,982	1,135	268	216	145	20	51	

STATEMENT IX.

Settlement Officer's Annual Financial Statement from October 1896 to September 1897.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment (against each sub-head).	Expenditure to end of the previous year (against each sub-head).	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head).	Balance.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Pay and special allowance of—			Rs. A. P.		
Settlement Officer	...	...	3,568 13 5	...	
Assistant Settlement Officers	...	...	23,164 13 0	...	
2. Fixed establishment	...	...	3,554 4 7	...	
3. Temporary establishment	...	...	24,539 5 1	...	
4. Contract and job work	...	...	44,503 13 8	...	
5. Travelling allowance—					
Of officers	...	...	7,259 1 6	...	
Of establishment	...	...	549 9 0	...	
6. Supplies and services—					
Forms	...	...	2,973 10 10	...	
Tents	...	...	226 3 9	...	
Petty construction	...	...		...	
„ repairs	...	...		...	
7. Contingencies—					
Hot-weather charges	...	...	566 1 9	...	
Office rent	...	...	2,447 13 0	...	
Service telegrams	...	...	204 8 0	...	
„ postage charges	...	...	959 6 3	...	
&c., &c., &c.	...	...	5,736 12 0	...	
			1,20,254 3 10	...	
			1,080 0 0	...	
			1,19,174 3 10	...	

STATEMENT X.
Abstract of Khatian.

	PROPRIETORS' PRIVATE LAND.					HELD BY PROPRIETORS, BUT NOT PRIVATE LAND.				HELD BY TENURE-HOLDERS, INCLUDING UNDER-TENURE-HOLDERS, CULTIVATED POSSESSION.			
NAME OF ESTATE.	Number of villages.	Number of holdings.	Cultivated area.	Uncultivated area.	Total area.	Number of holdings.	Cultivated area.	Uncultivated area.	Total area.	Number of holdings.	Cultivated area.	Uncultivated area.	Total area.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Hajipur ...	635	2,733	A. 5,213 D. 68	A. 516 D. 15	5,729 83	2,225	A. 7,058 D. 46	A. 487 D. 08	A. 7,545 D. 54	350	A. 959 D. 36	A. 124 D. 80	A. 1,084 D. 16
Mahua ...	629	2,557	9,406 17	850 38	10,346 55	4,320	11,951 85	1,292 85	13,244 70	2,025	7,724 80	468 21	8,193 01
Lalganj ...	231	982	2,578 19	290 55	2,868 74	1,433	3,443 62	345 19	3,788 81	375	1,727 23	132 39	1,859 62
Katra ...	186	877	4,438 93	421 57	4,860 50	3,193	13,077 55	1,237 71	14,315 36	227	1,210 54	53 87	1,263 41
Muzaffarpur ...	660	2,253	9,951 13	1,249 99	11,201 12	6,907	24,516 68	2,885 83	27,402 51	1,489	9,107 22	567 86	9,675 08
Paru ...	492	1,073	4,015 24	330 07	4,345 31	2,607	10,018 21	1,416 87	11,435 08	820	4,934 96	561 76	5,496 72
Belsand ...	162	566	3,972 83	190 02	4,162 85	2,512	11,392 26	1,047 12	12,439 38	422	3,238 27	210 70	3,448 97
Sitamarhi ...	115	136	2,364 70	262 69	2,627 39	1,371	7,507 0	835 83	8,342 83	192	1,517 39	84 67	1,602 06
Pupri ...	133	66	779 81	157 35	937 16	1,380	9,720 05	1,014 13	10,734 18	118	983 24	99 75	1,037 99
Sheohar ...	80	38	441 72	28 67	470 39	143	1,575 69	333 61	1,909 30	571	1,043 46	129 02	1,172 48
Total ...	3,323	11,261	43,253 40	4,297 44	47,549 84	26,091	100,261 47	10,896 22	111,157 69	6,587	32,401 47	2,433 03	34,839 50

		RAIYATS AT FIXED RATES AND RENTS.							SETTLED RAIYATS.										
NAME OF ESTATE.		Number of holdings.	Cultivated area.	Uncultivated area.	Total area.	Total cash rent.	Rate of rent per cultivated area.	Rate of rent per acre of whole holdings.	Number of holdings.	Cultivated area cash-paying.	Uncultivated area cash-paying.	Total area cash-paying.	Area on produce rent.	Total cash rent.	Rate of rent per cultivated area cash-paying.	Rate of rent per acre of whole holding including produce rent area.			
		15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29			
Hajipur	...	8,223	A. D. 11,465 72	A. D. 1,668 25	A. D. 3,123 97	Rs. A. P. 53,179 7 7	Rs. A. P. 4 10 3	Rs. A. P. 4 0 10	8,940	A. D. 63,451 54	A. D. 6,320 12	A. D. 69,771 66	A. D. 9,156 22	Rs. A. P. 3,59,962 10 7	Rs. A. P. 5 10 9	Rs. A. P. 5 2 6			
Mahua	...	1,775	3,543 25	450 74	3,993 99	11,402 13 1	3 3 6	2 13 8	84,390	94,418 72	7,308 25	101,726 97	13,591 46	4,49,695 8 5	4 12 2	4 6 8			
Lalganj	...	502	1,161 78	177 38	1,341 16	4,393 10 10	3 12 10	3 4 5	26,909	30,638 90	3,269 43	33,908 33	2,516 18	1,42,356 6 4	4 10 5	4 3 2			
Katra	...	107	281 91	38 78	320 69	1,041 4 2	3 11 1	3 3 11	35,645	42,944 81	4,399 03	47,343 84	3,056 72	1,76,651 5 2	3 10 6	3 9 8			
Muzaffarpur	...	276	749 0	233 22	982 22	2,876 1 4	3 13 5	2 14 10	92,375	1,13,656 0	9,853 44	123,509 44	7,448 71	5,14,221 13 5	4 8 4	4 2 7			
Paru	...	414	1,982 29	280 21	2,262 50	5,268 15 9	2 10 6	2 5 3	88,759	87,895 54	7,547 28	95,442 82	5,692 70	3,12,095 12 1	3 8 9	3 4 3			
Belsand	...	176	344 78	61 22	406 ...	1,330 1 0	3 13 8	3 4 4	28,593	42,863 93	2,920 65	45,704 63	2,637 53	1,76,264 15 9	4 1 9	3 13 7			
Sitamarhi	...	636	1,783 44	154 71	1,938 15	6,260 1 11	3 8 2	3 8 25	25,354	49,490 96	3,595 48	53,086 44	2,158 03	1,84,422 15 0	3 11 8	3 7 7			
Pupri	...	72	223 88	47 72	271 60	551 11 6	2 7 4	2 0 5	32,045	58,710 37	6,577 84	65,288 21	1,736 67	2,49,224 8 10	4 3 11	3 13 0			
Sheohar	...	354	1,189 79	95 77	1,283 56	1,756 9 9	1 7 10	1 5 10	11,649	20,560 34	1,613 61	22,173 35	1,461 46	65,370 1 3	3 2 11	2 15 2			
Total	...	12,535	22,715 84	3,208 0	25,923 84	88,060 9 6	3 14 0	3 6 4	434,569	634,631 16	53,404 53	658,035 69	49,355 77	26,24,266 1 10	4 5 5	3 15 9			

		NON-OCCUPANCY RAYATS.								RENT-FREE HOLDERS.					
NAME OF ESTATE.	Number of holdings.	Cultivated area cash-paying.		Uncultivated area cash-paying.	Total area cash-paying.	Area on produce rent.	Total cash rent.	Rate of rent per cultivated area cash-paying.	Rate of rent per acre of holding excluding produce rent area.	Number of holdings.	Cultivated area.	Uncultivated area.	Total area.		
	30	31		32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41		
		A.	D.	A.	D.	A.	D.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	D.	A.	D.
Hajipur	5,626	6,863	03	370	44	7,233	47	2,528	14	34,835	4	11	5	1	2
Mahua	2,814	2,644	88	77	61	2,722	49	244	53	15,799	10	11	5	15	6
Lalganj	845	535	70	37	82	573	52	75	37	2,745	3	9	5	1	11
Katra	523	424	69	24	01	448	70	177	24	1,920	12	3	4	8	4
Muzaffarpur	3,288	2,783	76	117	27	2,901	03	354	07	14,524	13	10	5	3	5
Paru	1,121	1,368	33	42	50	1,410	83	229	71	5,060	8	6	3	11	2
Belsand	97	126	08	12	04	138	12	35	06	560	5	8	4	7	1
Sitamarhi	100	93	71	26	43	120	14	5	36	467	11	0	4	14	1
Pupri	209	216	40	5	93	222	33	10	31	873	3	3	4	0	11
Sheohar	69	38	15	02	37	40	52	29	92	122	11	3	3	3	6
Total	14,692	16,094	73	716	42	15,811	15	3,690	01	76,905	5	4	5	1	6

		UNOCCUPIED.		KAISAR-I-HIND.		TOTAL AREA OF THE VILLAGE.		UNDER-RAIYATS.						
NAME OF ESTATE.		Number ofholdings	Total area.	Total area.	Total area of the village.	Number of holding.	Cultivated area cash-paying.	Uncultivated area cash-paying.	Total area cash-paying	Area on produce rent.	Total cash rent.	Rate of rent per cultivated area cash-paying.	Rate of rent per acre of holding excluding produce rent area.	REMARKS.
		42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54
		A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Hajipur	...	3,010	37,008 05	1,137 62	155,634 51	7,574	1,147 03	132 48	1,279 51	473 50	6,563 14 3	5 11 7	5 2 0	85,499
Mahua	...	3,867	15,829 69	0 33	173,259 39	6,324	1,557 21	57 09	1,614 30	1,181 77	10,206 2 9	6 11 10	6 5 0	101,926
Lalganj	...	1,357	4,889 59	474 85	53,615 22	2,276	569 50	30 76	631 90	631 90	3,049 7 11	5 5 2	5 1 3	36,242
Katra	...	1,326	7,298 26	439 31	80,602 68	1,757	349 72	8 33	358 05	696 83	1,474 13 0	4 3 5	4 1 10	44,281
Muzaffarpur	...	4,437	18,211 74	2,091 90	207,492 31	5,363	1,605 33	86 07	1,691 40	1,725 06	8,469 7 4	5 4 4	5 0 1	1,18,563
Paru	...	1,339	16,009 52	2,833 13	148,484 65	3,664	962 38	71 57	1,033 95	950 96	4,014 11 7	4 2 8	3 14 0	1,95,520
Belsand	...	1,682	5,704 02	314 55	77,024 67	1,140	218 08	6 54	224 62	489 02	941 15 2	4 5 1	4 3 1	36,753
Sitamarhi	...	969	5,143 87	347 30	76,632 43	1,400	353 46	7 30	360 76	802 95	1,431 3 3	4 0 9	3 15 6	29,809
Pupri	...	1,312	8,029 59	522 53	96,839 72	1,740	173 33	10 74	184 07	587 37	792 6 3	4 9 1	4 4 10	36,893
Sheohar	...	346	2,530 69	111 90	32,892 08	1,223	200 88	4 51	205 39	649 22	725 2 0	3 9 11	3 8 8	14,143
Total	...	19,656	120,654 52	9,278 42	1,096,527 66	32,061	7,136 92	415 39	7,552 31	8,188 63	37,672 3 6	5 4 5	4 15 9	5,99,634

Statement XIII.—Transfer of proprietary right for the season 1896-97.

CAMP No.	Number of villages selected.	Total area of those villages.	Total number of khewat entries.	Total number of estates.	Total number of trans- fers.	Area transferred.	Percentage of column 6 to 3.	PERCENT- AGE OF COLUMN 8.		NUMBER OF TRANSFERS TO--					Share of land revenue transferred if given in the register.	Price paid.	Average price per acre of land transferred.	Highest rate.	Lowest rate.	REMARKS.
								To column 4.	To column 4a.	Landlords.	Lawyers class.	Money-lenders.	Rajputs.							
1	2	3	4	4a	5	6	7	8	8a	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
Camp I	15	21,201.25	170	40	29	910.33	8.15	17	75	8	...	9	2	Rs. A. P. 710 8 4	Rs. A. P. 45,380 14 0	Rs. A. P. 49 18 9	Rs. A. P. 350 0 0	Rs. A. P. 22 8 11	The highest rate belongs to village Akhta.	
" II	6	3,399.12	104	00	13	834.97	25.29	12	22	6	2	...	5	293 7 2	58,631 0 0	70 3 3	629 6 6	11 8 1	The highest rate belongs to village Kaproul, pargana Toranah. It is with- in one mile of Sita- marhi.	
" III	1	1,227.76	12	3	10	483.40	30.37	23	500	6	...	3	1	1 12 0	27,964 5 0	57 14 0	79 0 7	13 8 6		
" IIIA	6	3,280.06	39	26	10	660.56	20.12	25	38	5	1	4	...	258 15 8	23,954 0 0	43 13 2	113 12 6	14 4 6		
" IV	3	1,434.43	10	7	3	160.49	10.04	30	43	...	...	...	3	84 14 0	23,090 0 0	156 13 1	336 8 2	100 0 0		
" V	2	656.83	26	25	1	6.14	4.23	4	4	1	...	...	...	3 9 9	694 0 0	111 6 4	...	...		
Total	30	21,098.44	300	100	60	3,045.98	14.45	15	41	36	3	16	11	1,353 2 11	185,444 3 0	60 14 1	629 5 6	11 8 1		

STATEMENT XIV.
Transfer of occupancy rights, 1896-97.

Camp number.	Number of villages.	Total area of camp.	Total area held by raiyats.	Total number of khattians by raiyats.	NUMBER OF TRANS-FERS.			AREA IN ACRES OF ENTIRE HOLDINGS TRANSFERRED.			AREA OF PART HOLDINGS TRANSFERRED.			TOTAL AREA TRANSFERRED.			PERCENTAGE TO COLUMN 14.			PERCENTAGE TO COLUMN 15.			PERCENTAGE TO COLUMN 16.		
					By sale.	By mortgage.	Total.	By sale.	By mortgage.	Total.	By sale.	By mortgage.	Total.	By sale.	By mortgage.	Total.	Of column 6.	Of column 11.	Of column 9.	Of column 12.	Of column 10.	Of column 13.			
1					5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22			
Camp I	104	64,246.95	49,022.44	22,263	160	1,340	1,500	61.45	132.21	193.66	194.09	1,201.14	1,305.23	255.74	1,533.35	1,639.09	24.11	75.89	9.92	30.08	12.20	87.80			
" II	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
" III	76	53,421.92	39,939.43	14,490	271	1,064	1,335	27.06	10.00	37.06	198.65	180.90	379.55	225.71	180.90	416.61	11.99	88.01	6.24	94.76	8.89	91.11			
" IIIA	64	37,648.31	28,727.01	12,331	75	367	442	13.92	61.02	74.94	198.65	336.80	406.05	84.17	386.82	430.99	10.64	83.46	15.38	84.62	15.78	84.22			
" IV	62	44,610.44	33,963.05	11,780	353	112	470	109.28	27.01	136.29	262.03	92.05	344.93	362.81	119.06	481.27	30.17	92.68	77.32	26.32	77.68	71.08			
" V	53	43,665.10	33,318.23	13,527	136	439	515	39.58	75.13	114.71	85.56	385.38	470.94	125.14	460.51	585.65	31.63	68.37	16.31	83.69	19.59	80.41			
Total ...	369	242,392.13	184,070.16	74,619	1,000	2,460	3,460	261.49	305.37	556.86	801.48	2,195.27	2,906.75	1,032.97	2,500.64	3,553.61	23.88	76.12	12.21	87.79	15.97	87.33			

Camp number.	PERCENTAGE TO COLUMN 3A.			PERCENTAGE TO COLUMN 4.			NUMBER OF TRANS-FERS TO—			PRICE PAID FOR AREA TRANSFERRED.			RATE PER ACRE FOR LAND TRANS-FERRED.			HIGHEST RATE.			LOWEST RATE.			REMARKS.		
	Of column 14.	Of column 15.	Of column 16.	Of column 5.	Of column 6.	Of column 7.	Landlord class.	Lower class.	Money-lenders.	Raiyats.	By sale.	By mortgage.	By sale.	By mortgage.	Total.	By sale.	By mortgage.	By sale.	By mortgage.	By sale.	By mortgage.	By sale.	By mortgage.	By sale.
1																								
Camp I	52	2.72	3.24	71	6.06	6.73	34	10	882	583	17,501.15	98,396.90	69.30	73.11	78.11	78.11	438.14	438.14	1,010.20	8.310	8.310	8.310	8.310	8.310
" II	66	4.47	1.04	1.37	1.33	30.20	28	12	73	351	12,443.66	7,752.14	55.20	40.98	48.79	48.79	558.22	558.22	200.00	3.12	3.12	3.12	3.12	3.12
" III	0.29	1.33	1.07	1.01	2.97	3.58	38	15	83	316	4,154.36	20,354.10	49.57	51.48	50.10	50.10	88.15	88.15	33.54	3.12	3.12	3.12	3.12	3.12
" IV	1.06	1.35	1.41	3.03	3.97	5.97	13	1	26	430	23,139.11	6,400.60	63.14	54.91	61.90	61.90	309.10	309.10	9.12	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.10
" V	0.37	1.36	1.75	.98	4.16	4.16	26	20	55	474	7,733.60	34,443.50	61.13	74.12	72.03	72.03	246.14	246.14	666.10	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.10
Total ...	56	1.35	1.82	1.33	3.29	4.63	139	48	1,119	2,154	65,272.10	1,07,437.30	62.13	66.15	68.73	68.73	558.22	558.22	1,010.20	3.12	3.12	3.12	3.12	3.12

STATEMENT XV(a).

Statement showing the demand of collections up to date.

YEAR.	Number of villages.	DEMAND.						COLLECTIONS.					
		Landlord's share.		Occupier's share.		Total.		Landlord's share.					
								Voluntarily collected.		Collected by certificate.		Total.	
		Receipt.	Amount.	Receipt.	Amount.	Receipt.	Amount.	Receipt.	Amount.	Receipt.	Amount.	Receipt.	Amount.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Up to September 1896	599	Rs. 9,313	A. P. 23,211 3 6	Rs. 45,203	A. P. 15,911 6 6	Rs. 54,516	A. P. 39,122 10 0	Rs. 6,689	A. P. 17,765 8 4	Rs. 513	A. P. 1,548 0 4	Rs. 7,202	A. P. 19,313 8 8
Ditto 1897	310	12,392	32,416 12 3	64,138	15,095 15 0	76,530	47,512 11 3	11,462	20,331 5 6	1,232	4,288 1 7	12,694	24,519 7 1
Total ...	909	21,705	55,627 15 9	109,341	31,007 5 6	131,046	86,635 5 3	18,151	37,996 13 10	1,745	5,836 1 11	19,896	43,832 15 9

YEAR.	COLLECTIONS.								BALANCES.								REMARKS.
	Occupier's share.						Grand total collected.		Landlord's share.		Occupier's share.		Total.				
	Voluntarily collected.		Collected by certificate.		Total.												
	Receipt.	Amount.	Receipt.	Amount.	Receipt.	Amount.	Receipt.	Amount.	Receipt.	Amount.	Receipt.	Amount.	Receipt.	Amount.			
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29		
Up to September 1896	43,082	Rs. 14,663 11 6	135	Rs. 83 9 6	43,217	Rs. 14,737 5 0	50,419	Rs. 34,050 13 8	2,111	Rs. 3,897 10 10	1,986	Rs. 1,174 1 6	4,097	Rs. 5,071 12 4			
Ditto 1897	60,497	14,648 15 0	6	10 5 0	60,503	14,659 4 0	73,197	39,178 11 1	1,809	11,795 0 0	5,621	1,610 12 6	7,430	13,405 12 6			
Total ...	103,579	29,302 10 6	141	93 14 6	103,720	29,396 9 0	123,616	73,229 8 9	1,809	11,795 0 0	5,621	1,610 12 6	7,430	13,405 12 6			

STATEMENT XV(b).

Statement showing the amount of cost and process-fee realized by certificate up to 25th September 1897.

UP TO SEPTEMBER 1896.										FROM OCTOBER 1896 TO 25TH SEPTEMBER 1897.										GRAND TOTAL COLLEC- TION BY CERTIFI- CATE.				PROCESS FEE REALIZED.			
THANA.	MALIKI.			RAITY.			TOTAL.			MALIKI.			RAITY.			TOTAL.			Number of certificates disposed off.	Number of receipts issued.	Amount realized.	Number of certificates disposed off.	Number of receipts issued.	Amount realized.	Up to September 1896.	During the year 1896-97.	Total.
	Number of cases disposed of.	Number of receipts.	Amount realized.	Number of certificates dis-posed off.	Number of receipts issued.	Amount realized.	Number of certificates dis-posed off.	Number of receipts issued.	Amount realized.	Number of certificates dis-posed off.	Number of receipts issued.	Amount realized.	Number of certificates dis-posed off.	Number of receipts issued.	Amount realized.												
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25			
Hijipur	516	702	Rs. A. P. 1,188 6 3	70	85	Rs. A. P. 45 7 6	586	787	Rs. A. P. 1,233 13 9	489	537	Rs. A. P. 3,086 15 0	4	4	Rs. A. P. 2 15 6	493	541	Rs. A. P. 3,069 14 6	1,079	1,398	Rs. A. P. 4,323 12 8	436 0 0	Rs. A. P. 1,606 4 2	574 4 0	Rs. A. P. 360 0 0	796 0 0	
Mahuwa	247	263	Rs. A. P. 359 10 1	24	41	Rs. A. P. 38 2 0	271	294	Rs. A. P. 397 12 1	245	253	Rs. A. P. 1,201 2 7	11	11	Rs. A. P. 7 5 6	256	264	Rs. A. P. 1,298 8 1	527	558	Rs. A. P. 1,606 4 2	138 4 0	Rs. A. P. 574 4 0	577 8 0	355 12 0		
Total	763	965	Rs. A. P. 1,548 0 4	94	126	Rs. A. P. 83 9 6	857	1,081	Rs. A. P. 1,631 9 10	734	790	Rs. A. P. 4,288 1 7	15	15	Rs. A. P. 10 5 0	749	805	Rs. A. P. 4,298 6 7	1,606	1,856	Rs. A. P. 5,930 0 5	574 4 0	Rs. A. P. 577 8 0	1,151 12 0			

STATEMENT XV(c).

Statement of percentage of cost to collection.

COST OF COMPUTATION.				COST OF COLLECTION.				TOTAL COST OF RECOVERY.				AMOUNT RECOVERED.				PERCENTAGE OF COST TO RECOVERY.			
Previously.	Present year.	Total.	REMARKS.	Recovery camp.		Head-quarters.		Present year.	Previously.	Total.	Previously.	Present year.	Total.	Present year.	Total.	Columns 10 & 13.	Columns 11 & 14.	Columns 12 & 15.	REMARKS.
				Previously.	Total.	Previously.	Total.												
1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.				
4,743 11 7	5,57 12 8	9,801 8 3		3,067 11 9	1,069 12 2	4,137 7 11	113 2 6	350 5 0	462 7 6	7,928 9 10	6,477 13 10	14,401 7 8	34,050 13 8	39,178 11 1	73,229 8 9	23 2	16 5	19 6	

APPENDIX XII(ii).

CHAMPARAN—ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER
30TH 1897.

Notifications.—No fresh notifications were issued during the year, as the whole of the district, excepting an area of about 250 square miles of hill and jungle, which it was decided to exclude from cadastral survey and settlement operations, had been brought within the scope of Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act by notifications issued in previous years.

The operation of the Land Record's Maintenance Act III (B.C.) of 1895 continued to be confined to the Bettia thana, to which its provisions were extended by Notification No. 5307L.R., dated 9th December 1895.

2. *Programme.*—The programme of work set out for the settlement staff during the year was:—

- (1) The attestation of the area of 1,185 square miles in which record-writing had been completed by the Survey Department in 1895-96.
- (2) The settlement of fair rents for 18,000 tenants whose cases, 415 in number, were left pending from last year in the area attested in 1895-96, and also the disposal of all cases in which applications should be made throughout the area set down for attestation.
- (3) The disposal of objections and disputes under sections 105 and 106 in all villages draft published in the attestation areas of the previous and the present years.
- (4) The completion of the records left pending in the area attested in 1895-96 and also of those in the area to be attested in the present year.
- (5) The recovery of costs from the proprietors and tenure-holders in the Bettia area of about 420 square miles which was attested in 1893-94, and from the proprietors, tenure-holders and raiyats of the Motihari area of about 490 square miles which was attested in 1894-95.
- (6) The computation of the costs due from proprietors, landlords and tenants in the 1,162 square miles attested in 1895-96.

The failure of the monsoon rains, however, threatened the district with the prospect of a severe and general scarcity, and it became obvious at a very early period of the season that it would not be possible to carry out the programme in its entirety. Unfortunately the area set down for attestation included the purely rice-growing tract round Ramnagar, where the failure of the crops was most complete and where distress began earliest and was most keenly felt. It was therefore decided not to open a camp in this area at all, as it was felt that attestation could not be carried on under such circumstances without danger of seriously prejudicing the raiyats' rights.

It was also decided to refrain from attempting to collect costs from any of the raiyats in the Motihari area, and our recovery operations were confined to the factories and big landlords and to the collection from raiyats in the Bettia area of the arrears of the previous season. All other branches of our work have been similarly hampered, and instead of closing operations in this district in December 1898, as we had hoped, it is probable that they will have to be continued for another six months.

3. *Staff of officers and distribution of work.*—I was Settlement Officer of the district throughout the year with Mr. Kerr in subordinate charge of the operations. Mr. Kerr was deputed to famine duty in Bettia as Subdivisional Officer from the middle of February to the end of July, and during his absence from head-quarters the routine work was carried on by Pandit Rama Ballava Misser. This officer and Maulavi Syed Ahmed Ali Khan were the only two Assistant Settlement Officers who were continuously employed on settlement work in the district throughout the year. The others were transferred or reverted to general duty on the contraction of the operations, which took place in the middle of February owing to the famine. Statement II attached to this report gives full particulars of the staff employed and the nature of the work they were engaged on. Maulavi Syed Ahmed Ali Khan spent 304 days on tour. I spent 42 days in the district during the year and visited it nine times.

4. *Record-writing and boundary disputes.*—This work was all completed in the previous year.

5. *Attestation.*—An area of 1,185 square miles, comprising 1,091 villages with 605,986 plots, was originally set down for attestation and distributed among five camps. This area is situated in the extreme north-west of the district, and owing to its notorious unhealthiness, it was proposed not to start attestation work in it till the beginning of January. Mr. Kerr, however rode over the whole area about the middle of October and reported that while the failure of the monsoon had rendered the tract freer from malaria than in ordinary years, it was at the same time certain that the general loss of the *aghani* crops would lead to severe distress later on, which would prevent the work being completed, unless it was begun earlier than was originally intended. He also recommended that no work should be undertaken in camp D, comprising an area of about 350 square miles, in which both the *bhadoi* and *aghani* crops had failed entirely, and where relief works were already opened. His

recommendations were accepted, and camps B C and E opened on the 2nd November. Owing to the want of an officer, camp A could not be opened till the 23rd November when Maulavi Syed Ali Mazhar was transferred from Gaya. This officer was, however, attacked by fever soon after he arrived, and had to take leave on medical certificate from the 17th December when the camp was closed, having done little more than three weeks' work. On the expiry of his leave distress had deepened to such an extent in this area that it was not thought advisable to re-open the camp, and he was accordingly not recalled to settlement work. The course of events in Camp D verified Mr. Ker's predictions, and no work could be started there at all. Camps B and E continued work till the middle of February when, owing to the urgent need of officers for famine duty, they had to be closed at a few days' notice without finishing their programmes. In Camp C, however, which is situated in the deara area along the river Gandak and where distress never deepened into actual famine, it was possible to finish the entire programme. Altogether we managed to attest an area of 665 square miles out of 1,185, leaving a balance of 520 square miles containing 600 villages and 264,000 plots for attestation in the coming season in a compact block centreing on Ramnagar. It is proposed to divide this area among three camps and it is hoped that the work will be completed before the end of February.

As to last year's work little need be said. The operations proceeded with the utmost smoothness. Nearly the entire area belongs to the Bettia and Ramnagar Raj. There is practically no sub-infeudation and the tenures are of the simplest description. Disputes about rent were few, and waste land is so abundant that there were hardly any disputes regarding possession. Careful enquiries had been made at Khanapuri in the previous year as to the local standard of measure in each tappa and as areas had been converted from acres into bighas by the Survey Department, in accordance with the result of these enquiries, no trouble arose about this matter, which has in other parts of Champaran given rise to considerable difficulties. Certain of the servants of the Raja and Dowager Rani of Ramnagar, who have been for some time on bad terms, did their best to create disputes, but their efforts were not particularly successful, and as the estates of the Raja and Dowager Rani have since been amalgamated and placed under the management of Mr. Coffin of Sathi factory, no further trouble is anticipated on this account. In a number of the villages in the extreme north the raiyats are non-resident and some difficulty was experienced in securing their attendance, and it is expected that considerable difficulties of the same nature will arise when we come to recover costs in this area. There were no signs, however, that the scarcity had made the raiyats less eager to stand up for their rights or less pertinacious in defending them, but our work had closed before the raiyats had got to the end of their resources and before the distress became acute among the cultivating class in the areas in which we were working. Our chief difficulty arose from the unhealthiness of the tract, and there was hardly a single member of the establishment in any of the camps who was not attacked with fever at one period or another. Under orders of the Director, quinine and other medicines were supplied for use in all the camps. The Assistant Settlement Officers generally report that these were appreciated, but that a considerable number of the staff preferred to use patent medicines of their own and other quack remedies.

I may notice here that the agreements regarding the growing of rice and indigo in force in the Hardia and Murla factories, to which objection was taken during the attestation proceedings last year and to which reference was made in last year's annual report, have all been cancelled by the proprietors of the factories. All entries relating to them have therefore been struck out of our record.

6. *Settlement of fair rents.*—The beginning of the year found us with the heavy balance of 415 cases, involving 18,657 tenants, left pending from the area attested in 1895-96. It had been intended to finish these off before the attestation season began, but owing to the circumstances explained in the preceding paragraph, three camps had to be opened early in November. Maulvi Syed Ahmed Ali Khan was then left to get through the whole of the very heavy balance, with some assistance from Pandit Rama Ballava Misser, who disposed of the cases relating to villages situated near head-quarters. Maulvi Syed Ahmed Ali Khan, who disposed of all his case-work in camp, did not complete the work till the end of May. Meanwhile, 299 cases, involving 17,849 tenants, had been filed in the area attested in 1896-97.

The severe distress which prevailed in the villages situated in camps A B and E, rendered it impossible for us to proceed to settle rents in that area during the recess, and it is not proposed to take up the work until the cold weather, when it is expected that a good harvest will have restored the raiyats to their former condition. In Camp C, however, which is situated along the deara area of the Gandak, and where distress never became acute, the work was carried on with vigour, first by Maulvi Syed Ahmed Ali Khan, and then by Pandit Rama Ballava Misser, who between them managed to dispose of 99 cases, involving 6,313 tenants before the close of the year.

Altogether in the 1895-96 area 415 cases involving 18,567 tenants, were disposed of. A rental of 1,87,835 was raised to 2,01,538, being an increase of 7.2 per cent. In the 1896-97 area 99 cases, involving 6,313 tenants, were disposed of. A rental of 37,249 was raised to 42,112, being an increase of 13.05 per cent. The whole of the enhancement in both areas was given under section 52. We have thus cleared off all the cases in the 1895-96 area, but in the 1896-97 area we have still 200 cases, involving 11,536 tenants, pending. These will be disposed of during the cold weather.

7. As in previous years I give the following table showing the result of our work in settling fair rents in Champaran from the beginning of the operations:—

AREA.	Number of tenants for whom fair rents were settled.	Former rental.	Fair rent settled.	Enhancement.	Percentage of enhancement.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Attested in 1893-94	22,151	1,44,556	1,62,636	18,080	12.50
„ in 1894-95	12,850	1,09,276	1,20,028	10,752	9.83
„ in 1895-96	53,290	5,57,201	6,00,300	43,099	7.73
„ in 1896-97	6,313	37,249	42,112	4,863	13.05
Total	94,604	8,48,282	9,25,076	76,794	9.05

It will be observed that the increase given in the area attested in 1896-97 is heavier than that given in any other part of the district. In explanation of this, Mr. Kerr writes:—

“This is largely due to the fact that a great part of the land lies along the river Gandak and is subject to constant changes from alluvion and diluvion. In some villages the areas actually held by the raiyats in no way corresponded to those shown in the landlord's jamabandis. Practically, all the increase was decreed in terms of compromises, but the most careful enquiries into the fairness of the rent agreed upon were made, and in no case was an enhancement exceeding 33 per cent. allowed. This restriction was willingly acquiesced in by the Bettia Raj and other landlords. Steps were also taken to reduce the rents of holdings which had been decreased by fluvial action, but such cases were found to be very few in number. Waste land is so abundant in this area that if a raiyat loses a portion of his holding by diluvion he has no difficulty in securing fresh land in substitution, and as most of the landlords are non-resident native thikadars of the Raj and are notoriously careless about measurement papers, the raiyat as often as not manages, by collusion with the patwari, to secure more fresh land in substitution than he actually lost by diluvion. Native landlords of this class are only too glad to see the land cultivated and to keep the raiyats in the village, and so long as the latter go on paying the old rent, they are not too particular about seeing that the land actually held by the raiyat corresponds with that shown in the jamabandi. Any increase in the jamabandi simply means that the thikadar has to pay increased rent to the proprietor on the renewal of the lease; and the thikadar, instead of raising rents, makes his profit by realizing cesses and salamies from the raiyats on special occasions, such as marriage in his family or other festivals. It may safely be said that if it had not been for the pressure brought to bear by the Bettia Raj on its thikadars, hardly any cases for enhancement would have been filed in this area. The Raj, however, very properly decided to take advantage of our operations to have this patriarchal but somewhat chaotic state of affairs set in order, and the result has been that we have been able to fix a fair and definite rent for the holdings in these villages.

In the 1895-96 area dealt with during the year (which may roughly be said to comprise the northern half of the sadar subdivision) things are more settled. Waste land is less abundant and greater difficulty was experienced in settling fair rents. This was especially marked in the two tappas of Duho Suhò and Bahas. In the former, which is entirely owned by a proprietor known as the Madhuban Babu, our difficulty arose from the bitter disputes which existed between the landlord and tenant as to the existing rent. The landlord claimed a rate of between 8 and 9 rupees a bigha and the raiyats asserted it to be between 3 and 6 rupees. Consequently the first issue to be framed in each fair rent case was “what is the existing rent?” In the great majority of the cases this issue was decided in favour of the raiyat and the landlord then withdrew the fair rent case, expressing his intention of again raising the matter under section 106. Altogether, the enhancement granted in the estates of the Babu, who has long been known as the most harsh and oppressive landlord in Champaran, was very slight.

Tappa Bahas is one of the most fertile tracts in North Bihar; the inhabitants are better off and more independent than their neighbours and seem naturally prone to litigation. Moreover the landlord of a large part of the tappa is the Murla factory which for some years past has not been on the best of terms with many of its raiyats. As might have been expected therefore, most of the cases were keenly contested. Although the areas, as measured by the present survey, usually exceeded those shown in the jamabandi as held by the raiyats, they stoutly denied that they were holding more lands than they were paying rent for and the chief point at issue was therefore the reliability of the jamabandis and the accuracy of the areas shown therein.

In connection with this, a most important matter was raised by the Bettia Raj in a test case. It was admitted that there had been no general measurement of the village by the landlord or any one else prior to the present cadastral survey, but it was claimed that whenever lands were settled with new tenants, they were measured by the landlord and that the jamabandis were written up in accordance with the results of this measurement. It was therefore contended that the Assistant Settlement Officer should find that the custom of measurement on resettling of the holdings was proved for Raj villages and that he should accept the jamabandi areas as reliable on this account. Over fifty witnesses, including the Manager of the Raj, several indigo planters, and other big thikadars were examined on this point. Their evidence was most interesting, as showing, the great diversities which exist among different landlords and in different parts of the district in regard to the procedure on settling land with new raiyats. In the first place it was proved that prior to the Raj coming under European management, measurements hardly ever took place: next it was shown that even at the present day it is not the usual practice of landlords to measure holdings when they are transferred from one raiyat to another either by succession, sale or resettlement. To quote the words of the Manager of the Bettia Raj:— "The reason why no measurement is made is that the new tenant accepts the entire *jama* of the old tenant irrespective of what the land may be in area." The only case in which measurement generally takes place is when a part of a holding is given up by an old tenant and settled with a new one. The evidence produced therefore showed that there was no such general custom of measurement or settlement of holdings as to prove the reliability of the areas shown in the jamabandis and the Raj claim to have the custom accepted as proved, was rejected. In a number of cases, however, it was proved that the individual raiyats who were being sued had had their holdings measured within recent times, and a reasonable enhancement was therefore allowed on this account. Under a misapprehension of the effect of the High Court decision in the case of Upadhy Thakur *versus* Persidh Singh and others, some applications for the settlement of the rents of more than one tenant had been filed with single 8-annas stamps during the year previous in this area. The Manager of the Bettia Raj claimed his right to have the cases tried, without the obligation of paying 8 annas in respect of each tenant being enforced, because the petitions had not then been rejected. On his claim being disallowed, he appealed to the Board of Revenue, but without result.

In the rest of the area no difficulty was experienced. Most of the cases were decreed on compromise and the landlords invariably showed themselves ready to grant terms which were considered fair. Most of the landlords now thoroughly understand our principles in dealing with compromises and are quite willing to conform to them. These principles may be briefly described as follows:—

- (1) We insist on a liberal allowance being given to cover —
 - (a) the difference between the local standard of measure and the bigha into which areas have been converted by the present survey, and
 - (b) the greater accuracy of the present survey as compared with previous measurements, and
- (2) We insist that this allowance shall be calculated on an intelligible basis, which will be fair for all the raiyats concerned. Cases in which there was a dispute as to the local standard of measure were usually compromised as soon as this point was decided.

Comparatively few applications for enhancement of rate under section 30 were received, and most of them which were filed, were withdrawn. No increase was given under this head. There appears to be no general desire to raise rates, and an attempt to do so renders a landlord very unpopular among his raiyats. We have adopted the principle laid down by the Advocate-General in his opinion on the case of the Maharaja of Hill Tippera *versus* Nazir Muhammad and held that as there is in Champaran no "rate per bigha for different classes of land, but only a letting of estimated areas at a lump sum," there is therefore no prevailing rate within the meaning of the law. So far no appeal has been filed against an order of this nature.

8. *Appeals*.—Twenty appeals were decided during the year by the Special Judge, who upheld the decision of the Lower Court in 12 cases, modified it in 3, reversed it in 1 and remanded 4 cases for further enquiry.

These results are on the whole satisfactory. The Special Judge has in every case upheld the power which we claim to scrutinize compromises and to reject them if they are unfair or based on unintelligible principles. He has also expressly remarked in one case in which the Assistant Settlement Officer had given rather heavy enhancements, that he considers it inequitable to enhancements more than 25 per cent. and he has cut down all the higher enhancements to this figure. This will greatly strengthen our hands in dealing with this difficulty in future. On the other hand the Special Judge has, owing to misapprehension of our proceedings in certain cases, laid down principles which it will be somewhat difficult for us to carry out. Thus, in a case decided by Mr. Colvin at an early stage of the operations, a compromise was rejected on the ground that it was unfair and unintelligible, and the landlord was called on to produce evidence as to the local standard of measure, with a view to a fair basis for compromise being arrived at. The landlord refused to this and the case was accordingly thrown out. The Special Judge remanded it for further enquiry, on the ground that the Settlement Officer should himself have endeavoured to collect evidence on the subject of the

local standard of measure, when the plaintiff refused to produce such evidence. This appeared to me to conflict with the presumption of the fairness of the existing rent, and to throw too great a burden on the Settlement Officer. When necessary, it is of course incumbent on a Revenue Officer, fixing fair rents, to hold a local enquiry to satisfy himself as to facts on which the oral evidence is insufficient, but in this particular case the plaintiff, by refusing to produce evidence of the standard of measurement, claimed that he was not bound, in framing compromises, by one of the main principles by which they must stand or fall, viz., the assimilation of the former with the present standard of measurement. It is satisfactory to note that when this case was taken up on remand the parties, with a better knowledge of the law, readily agreed to a compromise which was both fair and intelligible, and the matter has therefore been disposed of.

In another case, which was also decided at an early stage of the operations, the Assistant Settlement Officer had found the existence of a prevailing rate in the village by the process of dividing the rent by the area, holding that although each holding comprised all sorts of qualities of land, yet taken generally, each holding was similar and possessed similar advantages. The Special Judge has upheld this decision. His attention was apparently not called to the opinion of the Advocate-General in the case of Nazir Muhammad, referred to above. However, the Special Judge limited all enhancements to 25 per cent., and no hardship has been caused, but I fear both the Assistant Settlement Officer and Special Judge were in error in finding that a prevailing rate existed.

In the case in which the Assistant Settlement Officer's decision was reversed, the Special Judge unfortunately appears to have taken an entirely wrong view of the matter. The Assistant Settlement Officer rejected a compromise, asking that rent should be assessed on two-thirds of the nominal difference between the survey area and the area shown in the landlord's jamabandi. It was admitted that the local standard of measure was such that one jamabandi bigha was equal to 1 bigha 2·28 cottahs of the survey area, so that if the terms of the compromise had been carried out, every raiyat who, according to the jamabandi, held 1 bigha of land, and according to the survey held 1 bigha 2 cottahs, would have been called upon to pay enhanced rent for 1½ cottahs; although he was really holding ·28 cottahs less than the area shown in the jamabandi. The compromise was thus manifestly unfair and illogical, and the Assistant Settlement Officer rejected it, and proceeded to settle fair rents, giving an allowance of 3 cottahs to cover the difference between the standards of measurements and the greater accuracy of the present survey. The Special Judge, however, has upset the Assistant Settlement Officer's decision, and has ordered the rents, as entered in the compromise petition, to be settled as fair and equitable. He remarks as follows:— "The Assistant Settlement Officer appears to believe that a fair rent can be arrived at automatically by the operation of a numerical law. When the landlord and tenants agree to a rent, and this agreement seems to have been brought about by a legal compromise, and without the exercise of undue influence on the part of the landlord, I think the Settlement Officer ought not to interfere on the mere speculative grounds he has put forward." This decision shows, I fear, that the Special Judge, while admitting our right to scrutinise compromises and to reject them if they are unfair or inequitable, does not understand the nature of the tests to which we are bound to subject them. As, however, the enhancements in this case were all moderate, I have not thought it worth while to take steps to get the Special Judge to review his order.

None of the other decisions on appeal presented any points of interest. One hundred and thirty-one appeals are still pending.

9. *Draft publication.*—Draft publication has now been completed for all the villages attested in 1895-96, owing to the large number of cases under section 104, filed in the area attested last season, the majority of which we have been compelled by the famine to leave over till the cold weather. Only 204 villages have been draft published, out of 491 attested in this area.

10. *Objections under section 105.*—Three thousand five hundred and thirty-two cases were filed during the year, of which 3,271 belonged to the area attested in 1895-96 and 261 to that attested in 1896-97. Four thousand and fifty cases were disposed of and 340 are pending; of these only 120 belong to the 1895-96 area. The great majority of the cases were of a simple and uncontentious nature.

11. *Disputes under section 106.*—Our work under this head has been very heavy. One thousand eight hundred and fourteen cases have been filed and 914 disposed of, leaving a heavy balance of 979 pending.

The most important of these cases were those filed by the Madhuban Babu in tappa Duho Saho relating to the entries of existing rent. These cases, 696 in number, are being tried locally by Maulvi Syed Ahmed Ali Khan, who has already disposed of 224 of them. About 350 relate to the entry of fair rent settled under section 104 and are therefore inadmissible. The Babu has promised to withdraw these cases, so that the balance of pending cases is not so heavy as it looks. Extraordinary difficulties are being met with in the disposal of these cases, owing to the terrorism and oppression exercised by the agents of the Babu over the raiyats in their present depressed condition. In April and May when the famine was at its height, about 180 raiyats, who have had their rents recorded at attestation and under section 105, according to their own statements, came into Motihari and said that they would acknowledge the Babu's claim that their rates were between 8 and 9 rupees a bigha. It was obviously impossible to try the cases properly under such circumstances and they were

accordingly postponed till September when an excellent bhadoi crop had put new heart into the people. Even then a number of raiyats filed petitions saying that while they did not admit that the rent claimed by the Babu was actually paid by them, they did not wish to contest the cases and agreed that the rent claimed should be entered as the existing rent. Maulvi Syed Ahmed Ali Khan rightly refused to treat these petitions as compromises and referred them for orders. Mr. Kerr has recently visited the locality and found indisputable evidence that the Babu's agents and servants had been going round the villages threatening the raiyats with eviction and other evils unless they agree to the Babu's terms. Unfortunately the raiyats professed themselves unable to name or identify any of these persons. All, however, with the exception of three or four, who are relations and dependents of the Babu, have withdrawn the so-called compromise petitions and are producing evidence in support of their claim and some raiyats are now filing cases under section 106, in which they claim that the rents recorded at attestation are higher than those actually paid. The result of most of the cases decided so far has been to uphold the proceedings at attestation and under section 105 and has shown that while the Babu has never realised the high rent which he claims, the raiyats have not unnaturally gone to the other extreme, and are claiming to hold at rents lower than those actually paid.

The remaining cases under section 106 have been dealt with by Pandit Rama Ballava Misser at head-quarters. Many of them related to disputes as to whether land was held on a cash or produce rent. Others involved questions of title, inheritance and ownership. None of them presented any points of special difficulty and since the Assistant Settlement Officer has been engaged solely on this work he has been able to get through about 100 cases a month.

Twenty-two appeals against decisions under section 106 were decided during the year by the Special Judge, who upheld the decision of the lower Court in 15 cases, modified it in 1 and reversed it in 6. No points of interest were raised in the Special Judge's decisions. The six cases in which he reversed the Assistant Settlement Officer's decision were disputes as to whether land was held on a cash or produce rent, and the Special Judge disbelieved the evidence of the raiyats on the ground that they admitted having preferred false claims in other cases.

12. *Final publication.*—This work has been vigorously pushed on during the year and has now been completed for 890 out of the 1,083 villages attested in 1895-96. The arrears in the previous year's area have also been cleared off. It was found impracticable to wait till all the section 106 cases in a village were decided before doing final publication, as this unduly delays computation work and would render it impossible to carry on recovery in a compact area. Except therefore when the decision of a section 106 case might involve the alteration of the whole or a great part of a record, final publication is now done as early as possible, without waiting for the decision of all the section 106 cases filed in a village. Those khatians which are likely to be affected by the decision of a section 106 case are reserved and finally published after the case is disposed of. This system is working well and has been a valuable aid to us in pushing on computation work. The majority of cases which relate to questions of rent and status do not affect computation and should, therefore, not be allowed to retard it. Rules have been drawn up to provide for the re-numbering, re-arrangement and re-stamping of khatians where necessary.

13. *Cost.*—Statement IX annexed to this report shows the details of our expenditure during the year, but no comments can be made on them, as our estimates are drawn up for the financial year. During the year ending 31st March 1897, we spent Rs. 98,724 out of a budget allotment of Rs. 1,00,000 and between 1st April and 30th September 1897 we have spent Rs. 35,818 out of an allotment of Rs. 75,000.

14. *Recovery of cost.*—Notices were issued in October last to the villages in the Motihari and Govindganj thanas that recovery of costs would be begun in them in the ensuing month. Petitions of protest were, however, filed by nearly every one concerned that, owing to the failure of the crops, they were unable to pay up their dues. Careful enquiries were made and it became obvious that we could not expect to realise the amounts due from a large number of the raiyats, without undue hardship. The Collector of the district was also opposed to our attempting to collect anything from raiyats at that time. It was clear that it would have added greatly to our cost of collection if we had tried to discriminate between raiyats who were able to pay and those who were not, as we should thus have had to conduct recovery operations in the same area in two successive years. Sanction was therefore obtained to the postponement of all recovery from raiyats in this area till next year, and our work was confined to the realisation of arrears from the raiyats in the Bettia area in which recovery had taken place in the preceding year from the factories and other landlords in the Bettia area whose advance accounts of sums paid to the Survey Department in 1892-93 had not been finally cleared up at the end of the previous year and from the big proprietors and landlords in the Motihari and Govindganj areas. All these transactions were carried on from head-quarters and no Recovery officer was employed during the year.

Out of a total demand of Rs. 217,590-4-1 we have collected, including the amount allowed as set-off for the survey advances, the sum of Rs. 1,18,567-4-2 leaving a balance of 99,022-5-11. Of this, however, over Rs. 32,000 is due from raiyats in the Motihari area, from whom we have not yet attempted to collect and Rs. 44,000 is due from the Bettia Raj, which has not yet paid anything. The Manager reported that, owing to the famine, he had been unable to collect his rents and had no funds in hand to meet such a heavy demand. Now that,

the estate has been taken under the Court of Wards, we may hope to realise the amount due without further difficulty. The amount of over Rs 6,000 shown as outstanding against raiyats in the Bettia thana is almost entirely due from villages belonging to the Lallseryah factory, for which the proprietors have agreed to pay up as noted in last year's report.

Now that the famine is over, the work of recovery in all its branches will be vigorously pushed on and we hope to collect nearly all the outstanding demands both in this area and in the area attested in 1895-96 before the close of the present financial year.

15. During the past year the accounts of the advances made by the Raj and the factories in the Bettia thana to the Survey Department were finally adjusted. The Raj advanced the sum of Rs. 15,683-13-10 and will be given a set-off for this amount when it pays up the balances due from it. The factories were given a set-off for Rs. 6,968-6-11. The demand from them was Rs. 26,137-3-0 and this has been practically realised in full. The accounts of the native landlords who also gave advances to the Survey Department in this area, have not yet been finally cleared up. Many of them have not yet come forward to pay* and it was not considered advisable to use coercive measures against them, owing to the famine. Till they do come forward, it is not possible to say exactly what sum we shall have to allow them as a set-off. So far, we have only given a set-off of Rs. 712-11-8 to this class of assesses, and it is probable that very little more will be claimed.

Considerable difficulty was experienced in getting the factories to pay up the amounts due from them, and it was only by sending Pandit Rama Ballava Misser round to interview the managers that I could collect the amounts before the close of the financial year 1896-97.

Statement XV B shows the cost of computation and recovery since the beginning of the operations and the percentage of that cost to the amount recovered in each year. It appears that in 1895-96 the total cost of computation and recovery was 7,615-7-3, being a percentage of the amount collected of 20·3. During the year under report, the total cost was Rs. 2,634-12-3 and the amount collected Rs. 81,071-10-10, the percentage of cost on collection being thus only 3·2.

Taking both years together the total cost was Rs 10,250-3-6 and the total collection Rs. 118,567-4-2, the percentage of cost to collection being thus 8·6. The percentage of cost to collection was exceptionally high in 1895-96, because in that year no recovery could be made from the landlords, the accounts of the advances they had made to the Survey Department not having been adjusted. All the amounts collected were petty sums due from raiyats. The percentage was exceptionally low in the present year, because nearly all the amounts collected were large sums due from a few big landlords and all the work was done at head-quarters, no special Recovery Officer being engaged. Taking both years together, the percentage of cost to collection is well within the limit of 10 per cent. and in fact considerably lower, when it is borne in mind that the cost of computation includes that of computing the records of villages from which recovery will not be made until next year. It is true that we have still to collect Rs. 38,000 from raiyats in this area, and the cost of this will raise the percentage somewhat, but we shall also collect Rs. 44,000 in a lump sum from the Bettia Raj. I therefore anticipate that the total cost of recovery will be well within the prescribed limit of 10 per cent. The cost of computation works out to one anna three pies per acre for 1895-96 and to eight pies per acre for 1896-97. Excluding the cost of computation the actual cost of collection works out to 9·7 per cent. of the sum recovered in 1895-96, and to only 8 per cent. of the sum recovered in 1896-97.

16. *Office Work.*—A large amount of office work was done during the year. In the area attested in 1895-96, 9 lakhs of plots were checked and 11 lakhs passed through subsequent stages of office work, 10 lakhs contained in 890 villages were finally published, and costs have been computed in 667 villages.

A beginning has also been made on the office work connected with the records attested this year, but owing to the postponement of the fair rent cases in a large part of the area, the work is necessarily somewhat behindhand.

17. *Maintenance.*—The operations of Act III (B.C.) of 1895 continued to be confined to the Bettia thana. The office at Bettia was opened on 5th August 1896. Up to 30th September 1897, two hundred and sixteen cases had been filed. Of these, 888 were instituted under section 8 of the Act by transferees who obtained possession by mortgage, sale or gift; 74 under section 9 by persons claiming by succession, and 1,054 were under section 22 of the Act, when the Sub-Registrar himself takes cognizance of a mutation when registering a deed of transfer or receiving a memorandum of a transfer from another office. The villages for which mutation registers have been prepared contain 52,036 tenants. The number of applications for mutations filed is therefore 3·8 per cent. of the total number of holdings. The number of transfers by mortgage, sale or gift is 1·7 per cent., the mutations by succession only amount to ·1 per cent., while those in which the Sub-Registrar took the initiative, came to 2 per cent. Mutations were recorded in 1,941 cases, refused in eight, and 67 cases are pending. The Act cannot therefore be said to be a dead letter, but it is significant that of the 2,016 cases, only 74 have been filed by persons claiming by succession. The remainder are entirely due to transfers by sale or mortgage with possession, with a few cases of gifts, and the largest class of all is those of which the Sub-Registrar himself takes cognizance under section 22. It would therefore appear that the main use to which the Act has been put so far, is to afford additional facilities to money-lenders and persons of that class to oust raiyats from their holdings without the landlord's knowledge and that heirs succeeding to a holding on the death of the former owner, do not take the trouble to get their names recorded in the Mutation Register. Mr. Kerr has

collected statistics for four villages belonging to Loheria factory, which have been kindly supplied by Mr. J. Barclay, the Manager, who keeps a very careful record of all transfers. The factory papers show that since the beginning of 1894, when final publication took place in two villages, Lagouahā and Karampatti, 335 plots belonging to 112 holdings have undergone a change of ownership, and the change has been duly recorded by the landlord. Of these 168 plots have been given up by their former tenants and settled with new raiyats, 140 have been exchanged between the factory and certain raiyats, 12 have been abandoned by their former cultivators and are now lying waste, and 15 have been absorbed by an irrigation channel which has been made by the factory. The landlord has also recorded 18 mutations of whole holdings by succession. In the Registration office at Bettiah not a single mutation has been recorded in either of these villages.

In the village of Khutia, the factory has recorded change of ownership of 63 plots belonging to 9 raiyats. Of these 48, plots have been resigned by their former owners and re-settled with 24 new raiyats, 12 plots have been abandoned and are lying waste, 2 have been exchanged between the factory and a raiyat, and on one plot, which was abandoned by its former owner, another raiyat has been allowed to build a house. The factory has also recorded 6 mutations of whole holdings by succession. Again, not one of these mutations has been recorded in the Registry office. It has, however, recorded one mutation in this village, viz., the transfer of a holding to a mahajan by mortgage with possession. This transfer has never been brought to the landlord's notice.

In the fourth village, Loheria, the factory has recorded changes of ownership of 68 plots belonging to 10 raiyats. Of these, 31 plots have been resigned by their former owners and re-settled with 6 new raiyats, 29 plots have been exchanged between raiyats, 2 plots have been exchanged between the factory and raiyats, and 4 plots have been abandoned and are lying waste. The factory has also recorded 21 transfers by succession of whole holdings. Again, not one of these transfers has been registered at Bettiah. In the Mutation office, however, 20 transfers have been recorded in this village, none of which have been recognised by the landlord. Of these, 13 are transfers by mortgage with possession, 6 are by sale, and one by gift. Seven holdings, three by sale, and four by mortgage with possession, have passed into the hands of one man who is the same mahajan who has acquired the holding in Khutia. Of the remaining transferees, eight appear to belong to the professional money-lending class, and they have acquired nine holdings by mortgage with possession.

The remaining three cases of sale and the gift seem to be transactions between raiyats.

Mr. Kerr writes:—"In the case of these four villages, then it must be acknowledged that the Mutation office has been absolutely useless as a means for keeping up the record of rights. In none of them have any cases of exchange between raiyat and raiyat, or between landlord and raiyat, or of succession by inheritance been recorded. In the last two, the majority of the persons, who have taken advantage of the Act, have been professional money-lenders who are thus supplied with additional facilities for dispossessing cultivators behind the backs of the landlords. The Act cannot, therefore, be said to have produced the effect which was intended at any rate in the case of these four villages, and the statistics of the work done in the Mutation office, since it was opened, would seem to show that pretty much the same sort of thing is going on elsewhere."

Further detailed enquiries somewhat on the lines of those made in the case of the Loheria villages will probably have to be made before any remedy for the present state of things can be proposed; nor is this the place in which to make recommendations for an alteration of the law. It is sufficient to point out that the Act has apparently to a large extent failed in the purpose for which it was intended, and that it appears that there is a grave danger that it will put another weapon into the already too powerful hands of the professional money-lender. The general opinion appears to be that the Act will never succeed unless greater inducements are offered to landlord and tenant to take advantage of its provisions. As regards landlords it would be a great advantage to them, if no mutation of a part-holding were made without the landlord's consent. Transfer of whole holdings are comparatively rare, and a provision of this kind would be a powerful check on the professional money-lender. As regards raiyats a record of a change in rent, as well as a change in area would, no doubt, be popular. Every exchange or resignation of a plot or two involves some alteration in rent. At present a raiyat may give up half his holding, and have his rent proportionably reduced by the landlord, and yet if he goes to the Mutation office, all that is recorded is that half his holding has been removed from his name, and the entry of rent remains the same as it was before. A further inducement would be to add to the disabilities imposed by section 23 of the present Act on persons who fail to register mutations, the further disability that no one should be allowed to register a deed of transfer of tenant right, unless he was either recorded in the record of rights as in possession, or if he acquired the tenant right subsequent to final publication that he had got the transfer to himself recorded in the Mutation Register. Some such provision as this seems necessary in the interests of the proper working of the Act, as at present considerable difficulty is felt, especially in the cases of memoranda of transfers received from other Sub-registry offices, when the person executing the deed of transfer is not the same as the person entered in the record of rights as in possession of the tenant right transferred.

18. *Statistics of village area, &c.*—The figures in statement X attached show that the 2,225 villages which we have attested so far cover an area of 2,766 square miles, that they contain 402,800 tenants and 2,526,815 plots. Thus the average size of a village is 122 .

square miles, containing 178 tenancies and 1,120 plots. The average size of a tenancy is 4·3 acres and of a plot ·7 of an acre. The figures are, however, liable to revision, as they have been compiled before the preparation of final terijes for about 500 of the villages included in the statistics.

19. *Statistics of status and rent.*—Final terijes have been completed for 1,750 out of 2,855 villages. The figures are practically complete for the sadar subdivision, as they have been compiled for all, except twelve villages in it. Figures for Bettiah thana (including Gopalganj) have been compiled for all, except 50 villages, and the figures for Bagaha and Shikarpur are still incomplete. The 1,750 villages cover an area of 2,033 square miles. Of this 1,504 square miles or 73 per cent. is cultivated. Proprietor's private lands cover only 4,706 acres or ·3 per cent. of the total area, 1·4 per cent. is held by proprietors, and 5 per cent. by tenure-holders. Of the cultivated areas 845,806 acres or 88 per cent. is held by raiyats excluding rent-free holders and under-raiyats, and of this 803,689 acres or 95 per cent. is held by raiyats with occupancy rights, 2½ per cent. is held by raiyats at fixed rates, and 2½ per cent. by non-occupancy raiyats. Rent-free holders cultivate only 22,622 acres or 2 per cent. of the cropped area. The total number of raiyats is 258,460, of whom 239,030 or 92½ per cent. have occupancy right: 2,694 or 1 per cent. hold at fixed rates, and 16,728 or 6½ per cent. are non-occupancy raiyats. The average size of the holding of a raiyat at fixed rates is 8·6 acres, of which 7·5 acres is cultivated. The rent rate is Re. 1-1-6 per acre for the whole holding, and Re. 1-4-2 for the cultivated part of the holding.

The average size of an occupancy raiyat's holding is 3·8 acres, of which 3·5 acres is cultivated. The rent-rate is Rs. 2-0-3 for the whole holding, and Rs. 2-3-5 for the cultivated portion: 41,856 acres or 4 per cent. of the area, held by occupancy raiyats, pays a produce rent. The average size of a non-occupancy raiyat's holding is 1·8 acres, of which 1·6 acres is cultivated. The rent-rate is Re. 1-15-5 for the whole holding, and Rs. 2-3-11 for the cultivated portion: 5,489 acres or 18 per cent. of the area, held by non-occupancy raiyats, pays a produce rent.

The rent-rates of occupancy and non-occupancy raiyats are, therefore, practically identical, but the average size of a non-occupancy holding is less than half that of an occupancy holding, and the proportion of land, held by non-occupancy raiyats on a produce rent, is more than four times the proportion so held by occupancy raiyats. There can be no doubt therefore that there is a material difference in the material advantages of the two classes of raiyats. Under-raiyats hold only 26,964 acres or 2 per cent. of the total area of these villages. All the land held by under-raiyats is cultivated, except 552 acres. The average size of a holding is just over an acre, and the rent-rate Re. 1-9-2. Of the total area 17,167 acres or 63 per cent. pays a produce rent. A large number of under-raiyats possess occupancy holdings in the village, and cultivate temporarily part of the lands of a more prosperous neighbour who has a bigger holding than he can properly look after. Those under-raiyats, who do not belong to this class, are usually the ploughmen or labourers of big occupancy raiyats and tenure-holders.

The rent-rate for all classes of raiyats is highest in Madhuban thana where it is Rs. 2-11-5 per acre for occupancy raiyats. This thana is situated in the south-east corner of the district and borders on Muzaffarpur. Part of the area belongs to the Madhuban Babu, but the greater part is in the hands of petty proprietors, and the Bettiah Raj owns very few villages in it. It was, therefore, to be expected that high rent-rates should prevail in this area.

20. *Cultivation and crop statistics.*—I am now able to give cultivation and crop statistics complete for the whole district. The total area cadastrally surveyed, comprises 2,855 villages, and covers an area of 2,099,192 acres or 3,280 square miles. As the total area of the district is 3,531 square miles, it would appear that the area of the uninhabited hill and jungle country in the north-west, which was excluded from cadastral survey, is 251 square miles.

Of the area cadastrally surveyed 68 per cent. is cultivated, and 32 per cent. is uncultivated. Of the uncultivated area 32 per cent. is not available for cultivation, being made up of roads, rivers, tanks and the like. As much as 7·1 per cent. is current fallow, and 18 per cent. is waste land which is available for cultivation. In the Bagaha thana 33 per cent. of the total area is waste land available for cultivation, and in Shikarpur the proportion is 24 per cent. On the other hand, in Madhuban and Adapur the proportions are only 8 and 7 per cent., respectively.

Of the net cropped area of 1,938,560 acres, nearly 40 per cent. bears two crops. *Aghani* crops cover 28 per cent. of the total cropped area, *bhadoi* crops 33 per cent., and *rabi* 39 per cent. Of the net cropped area *aghani* covers 38, *bhadoi* 46, and *rabi* 56 per cent. In Shikarpur the *aghani* and *rabi* together cover over 75 per cent. of the total cropped area. It was in this tract that the distress was most severely felt during the present famine. The *aghani* crop was almost a total failure, and the *rabi*, which is largely sown on *aghani* land, is always of inconsiderable value, and did little to help the raiyats.

On the other hand, (in Adapur, which is the most prosperous tract in the district, 58 per cent. of the area bears two crops, and 54 per cent. bears a *bhadoi* crop. Here the *rabi* is mostly grown on the high *bhadoi* land, and is a really valuable crop; so that the raiyats in this tract have two valuable crops to depend on, instead of only one. The irrigation statistics show that 25,530 acres or under 2 per cent. of the net cropped area is irrigated, but the figures are obviously incomplete for certain thanas, and I do not think much importance can be attached to them.

In Shikarpur over 4 per cent., and in Bagaha over 3 per cent. of the net cropped area is irrigated, chiefly by hill streams. It is to be regretted that more attention was not paid

to the collection of the irrigation statistics in the early stages of the operations. In Kesaria and Madhuban no area is shown as irrigated, and the figures for Govindganj and Bettiah are worthless.

21. Of the net cropped area of 1,438,560 acres rice covers nearly 52 per cent. In Shikarpur rice covers no less than 79 per cent. of the cropped area, and in Adapur 83 per cent. After rice comes barley which is grown on 16 per cent. of the cropped area, and then maize, kodo, and wheat which each cover about 8 per cent. Indigo is grown on only 6 per cent. of the total area, but excluding Bagaha and Shikarpur where the quantity grown is inconsiderable, the proportion works out to nearly 9 per cent. The largest proportion of indigo is in Kesaria thana where it covers over 11 per cent. of the cultivated area. Sugarcane covers only 9 per cent. of the total area, but in Bagaha the proportion is nearly 3 per cent. Opium is grown on 50,147 acres on over 3 per cent. of the cultivated area. The area is greatest in Dhaka thana where the proportion is over 6 per cent. Tobacco only covers 1,070 acres. A small quantity of coffee is grown chiefly by Muhammadans in the Bettiah and Kesaria thanas for private consumption.

22. *Transfer of occupancy rights.*—The usual enquiries were made at attestation regarding this matter, and statement XIV gives the results in tabulated form. It appears that out of 55,907 holdings attested, 1,784 or 3 per cent. have been affected by sales or mortgages, 714 transfers or 40 per cent. were made to persons of the professional money-lending class, and 967 or 54 per cent. to cultivators. The average price paid per acre was Rs. 22 in the case of sales, and Rs. 25 in the case of mortgages. There were 506 sales and 1,278 mortgages. The lower price, paid for land transferred by sale, may be accounted for by the fact that a raiyat is seldom willing to part out right with his best land, while a heavy *salami* has to be paid by the in-coming tenant.

Mortgages in this district as elsewhere are very much more frequent than sales. Mr. Kerr states the reason, thus:—

“The raiyat who has mortgaged his holding or part of it can always cherish the hope of being able some day to redeem it; and the money-lender also usually much prefers a mortgage with possession to a sale. In the first place it keeps the raiyat in his power. The money-lender does not want to ruin the raiyat outright and drive him away from the village, but to keep him there as long as possible, and make as much out of him as he can. In the second place the transferee, who acquires a holding by sale, usually has considerable trouble before he can get himself recognised by the landlord. He either has to pay a heavy *salami*, or if the landlord is an indigo factory, he may be called on to execute an agreement to grow indigo on the best land of the holding for a considerable term of years. Many landlords, especially factories in this district, will not allow a person whom they consider to be a professional money-lender to acquire any occupancy rights in their villages, and in that case the transferee has to bring a suit in the Civil Court for delivery of possession.” In a recent case of this kind brought by a money-lender living in Motibari, who had purchased the occupancy rights of a raiyat in a village belonging to Rajpur factory, the High Court held that the factory had the right to refuse to let the transferee cultivate the land and pay rent for it, and that in the villages belonging to the factory, occupancy rights were not transferable without the landlord's consent. The effect which this decision will have in discouraging transfers by sales will be greatly strengthened by a more recent decision of the High Court, reported on page 355, I. L. R. C. XXIV, 1897, in which it was held that in the absence of any custom to the contrary occupancy rights are not saleable without the consent of the landlord at the instance of any creditor of the raiyat, except the landlord himself suing for arrears of rent. The transferee by sale is thus entirely in the hands of the landlord, who can either refuse to recognise him altogether, or can exact any terms he pleases from him as a condition of recognition.

“On the other hand, the transferee, who gets a mortgage with possession has none of these difficulties to contend with. The rent is still nominally paid by the old tenant, and the landlord, in the majority of cases, knows nothing about the transaction. Even if he gets to learn of it, it is very difficult for him to do anything as the raiyat and the mahajan acting in collusion can easily outwit him. Meanwhile the creditor retains his hold on the debtor, he can either cultivate the land himself, or as is more usual, he lets it out to the former raiyat at an exorbitant produce rent.”

I intend, during the coming season, to make systematic enquiries through the recovery camp on the subject of the transfer of occupancy rights in those areas which were attested at an early stage of the operations, and where these enquiries were either not made at all, or made in an incomplete form. I shall then be able to discuss the question adequately for the whole district.

23. *Patwaris.*—The enquiries made regarding patwaris elicited nothing of interest beyond what was stated in last year's report.

24. *Famine.*—I have already noticed how the famine hampered the different departments of our work, and rendered it impossible for us to complete the full programme for the year. I may here briefly notice the nature of the assistance we were able to give the Collector. Early in November the services of Pandit Rama Ballabh Missir and Babu Harbans Sahai were lent to him for a fortnight. They travelled over the whole district between them, and submitted reports showing the condition of the crops in each tract, the intensity of distress which might be anticipated, the quantity of food stocks in hand, &c.

All the Assistant Settlement Officers, while in camp, submitted weekly reports to the Collector showing in detail the condition of each village they visited during the period.

Scarcity maps were also prepared from these reports, in which the relative intensity of the distress in each tract was shown by the use of different colours.

Again, our cultivation and crop statistics for the first time rendered available, full, and accurate information as to the agricultural condition of each thana, and this must have been of great assistance to the Collector in gauging the condition of the different tracts and testing the value of the reports received by him. Moreover, our village maps and records were used for the land acquisition work in connection with the Bettiah-Bagaha Rail way the Tirbeni and Dhaka canals and the Gandak embankment, all of which were taken up as famine relief works.

Mr. Kerr, with reference to this matter, writes :—

“The Board had previously sanctioned their use for the land acquisition work in connection with the Segowlie-Ruxol Railway, which was being constructed by a private company. The procedure was as follows. The Collector sent us a rough trace of the centre line on the scale of 2" to the mile. We then prepared traces on the scale of 16" to the mile of the maps of the villages through which the centre line passed. We also supplied skeleton khasras showing the number of each plot, the name of the occupier, and the trees and houses if any in the plot. Armed with the map and the skeleton khasra, the Land Acquisition Officer proceeded on the ground to mark on the map the exact boundaries of the land to be acquired according to the dogbells and to make the preliminary enquiries about houses and trees. He then returned the skeleton khasra to us having marked on it the exact plots or portions of plots to be acquired, and we filled in the full khasras, details of area, &c., for him. We also supplied him with a statement showing for each village the rates of rent for each class of raiyat and the market value of proprietary and occupancy rights as shown by our transfer statistics. He was thus in a position to determine accurately the amount of compensation to be apportioned among the different persons interested in the land acquired.” This is, I believe, the 1st district in which land acquisition proceedings have been based entirely on settlement records, and we are much indebted to Babu Siva Sankar Singh, the Land Acquisition Deputy Collector, and formerly Assistant Settlement Officer in Saran, for the success with which he has shown how settlement records can be utilized to cheapen and shorten acquisition proceedings at the same time.”

25. *Training of Junior Civilians.*—As no survey party was at work during the year, and as all the junior civilians were fully employed on famine relief work, no instruction could be given them in settlement operations.

26. *General remarks.*—The majority of the raiyats as usual showed themselves eager and willing to attend our courts and camps, and displayed great keenness to get their rights properly recorded. The landlords also gave us every assistance, except in the matter of recovery where their co-operation has not been so cordial, as might have been expected from the more intelligent among them.

Although the famine prevented us from completing the full programme for the year, still our work in all departments has made steady progress. In particular the office work has made such excellent progress that, although we have still 550 square miles to attest, we may safely venture to hope that should nothing untoward intervene, we shall be able to bring operations in this district to a close by the middle of 1899, or not more than six months later than originally fixed.

27. *Officers.*—The bulk of the year's work has fallen on the shoulders of Pandit Rama Ballabh Missir, who, in addition to disposing of a large number of cases and supervising the very heavy office work with his usual care and diligence, was in general charge during Mr. Kerr's absence on famine duty. Maulvi Syed Ahmed Ali Khan also did good and useful work. The attestation officers worked well in an unhealthy climate under trying circumstances, especially Babu Hemanta Kumar Moitra. Maulvi Syed Ali Mazhar was driven by ill health to take leave before he had a chance of showing his capabilities.

Babu Harbans Sahai and Maulvi Abdul Salek have experience of settlement work and got through their programmes successfully, though both required keeping up to the mark.

Mr. Kerr has continued to control the operations in this district with that tact and common sense that characterize all his work.

C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE,

Settlement Officer.

STATEMENT II.

Distribution of staff.

OFFICERS.	Work engaged on.	Period of employment.	Days on tour.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
C. J. Stevenson-Moore, Esq., c.s.	Settlement Officer ...	Whole year ...	42	Acted as Subdivisional Officer, Bettiah, from 10th February 1897 to 4th August 1897, and as Joint-Magistrate in charge, Motihari, from 5th August 1897 to 15th September 1897 in addition to his settlement duties.
J. H. Kerr, Esq., c.s. ...	Assistant Settlement Officer in charge of the district.	Ditto ...	69	
Pandit R. B. Missra ...	Case and office work at head-quarters.	Ditto ...	69	
M. S. Ahmed Ali Khan	Case-work ...	Ditto ...	304	Reverted to General duty.
M. S. Abdul Salek ...	Case-work and attestation.	1st October 1896 to 10th February 1897.	113	
M. S. Ali Mazahar ...	Attestation ...	23rd November 1896 to 17th December 1896.	22	
Babu Hemonta Kumar Moitra.	Case-work and attestation.	1st October 1896 to 15th February 1897	138	Fell ill on the 17th December, and took leave on medical certificate. Reverted to General duty.
Babu Harbans Sahai ..	Ditto ...	1st October 1896 to 28th February 1897.	125	

STATEMENT III.

Settlement Officer's yearly Return of Khanapuri work.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER EMPLOYED.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH KHANAPURI WORK WAS COMPLETED.				Number of villages of which khana-puri is going on but is incomplete.	Number of villages inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of amins inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of plots of which the khasra entries were tested during the year.	REMARKS.
				Up to end of the previous year.		During the year.						
				Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
District totals	Champaran ...	2,855	3,280	2,855	3,280	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	

STATEMENT IV.

Settlement Officers' Annual Return of Boundary Disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NUMBER INSTITUTED—			NUMBER DISPOSED OF—			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT—					REMARKS.	
	From the beginning of the year (1st October), including cases pending on 30th September to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending from preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—				
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
District totals ...	988	Nil.	988	988	Nil.	988	Nil.	37	37	34	1	0	2	

STATEMENT V.

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Attestation Work, including final publication of Records.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	Number of villages for which records have been received from the Survey Department.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.				NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT PUBLISHED.		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED.		REMARKS.
					Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
District totals ...	Champaran	2,865	3,280	2,856	1,764	2,101	336,102	2,187,304	401	665	166,698	339,511	1,254	718	678	891	
Details of years' work.																	
Syed Ali Mazahar ...	Camp A ...	240	260	240	...	...	...	...	63	78	2,705	21,469	...	69	...	...	
" Abdul Salek ...	" B ...	181	252	181	...	...	...	...	81	190	18,616	94,269	...	...	...	...	
Babu Harbans ...	" C ...	177	254	177	...	...	...	...	177	254	30,530	1,45,335	...	60	...	...	
Sahai ...	" E ...	231	196	231	...	...	...	...	170	143	14,847	78,458	...	84	...	...	
Babu H. K. Moitra ...	" ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	514	...	890	
In area attested in 1895-96.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
In area attested in 1894-95.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Total ...		829	992	829	...	...	...	...	401	665	166,698	3,39,511	...	718	...	891	

STATEMENT VI.

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Cases under section 104 of the Tenancy Act for Settlement of Fair Rents.

[illegible]

STATEMENT VI(a).

Statement showing the grounds of enhancement of rent for the year ending 30th Septembrr 1897.

NAME OF OFFICER.	Number of raiyats.	Former rent.	Present rent.	SECTION 52.				SECTION 30.		Total increased.	Total percentage.
				Increase.	Percentage.	Decrease.	Percentage.	Increase.	Percentage.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
In area attested in 1896-97.											
Maulvi Abdul Salek	1,213	12,384	15,124	753	6'08	13	'10	...	...	740	5'9
Pandit R. B. Misra	4,454	33,027	41,554	3,527	9'2	...	...	...	...	3,527	9'2
Babu H. K. Moitra	189	2,141	2,254	209	9'7	96	4'4	...	...	113	5'2
" Harbans Sahai	1,698	19,407	20,770	1,363	7'02	...	...	...	...	1,363	7'02
Maulvi Syed Ahmed Ali Khan ...	11,103	116,876	123,836	8,049	6'9	89	'07	...	...	7,960	6'8
Total ...	18,657	187,835	201,538	13,907	7'4	198	'1	...	...	13,703	7'2
In area attested in 1896-97.											
Pandit R. B. Misra	2,031	8,394	9,460	1,004	11'9	...	...	...	...	1,004	11'9
Maulvi Syed Ahmed Ali Khan ...	4,282	28,853	32,712	3,884	13'4	25	'08	...	...	3,859	13'3
Total ...	6,313	37,249	42,112	4,888	13'1	25	'06	...	...	4,863	13'05
GRAND TOTAL ...	24,970	225,084	243,650	18,789	8'3	223	'009	...	...	18,566	8'2

STATEMENT VII.

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Objections under section 105 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Nature of case.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS. (State grounds on which decisions have been appealed against and summarise orders of courts of appeal.)
		Up to the end of the previous year including cases pending on 30th September of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending on 30th September of preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
											Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
District Total ... ..	.....	8,200	3,532	11,732	7,342	4,050	11,392	340	...	...	...	...	...	
Details of year's works.														
(1) Objections heard and considered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act.														
Maulvi Abdul Salek ...	In area attested in 1896-97.	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Pandit R. B. Misra ...		...	...	...	...	2,849	2,849	...	...	...	...	...	...	
J. H. Kerr, Esq. ...		...	3,271	3,271	...	145	145	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Syed Ahmed Ali Khan ...		...	...	...	...	873	873	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Babu H. K. Moitra ...	In area attested in 1896-97.	...	...	...	...	161	161	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Pandit R. B. Misra ...		...	261	261	...	21	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Total ...		...	3,532	3,532	...	4,050	4,050	...	...	...	...	...	...	

STATEMENT VIII.

G.—Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Disputes under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Nature of case.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.				REMARKS. (State grounds on which decisions have been appealed against and summarise orders of courts of appeal.)	
		Up to the end of the previous year, including cases pending on 30th September of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending on 30th September of preceding year.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—				
										Decided.	Upheld.	Modified.		Reversed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
District Totals ... ..	.....	959	1,814	2,773	880	914	1,794	979	51	27	17	4	6	
Details of year's work.														
	(2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.													
Pandit R. B. Misra ... Maulvi Ahmed Ali Khan. J. H. Kerr, Esq.	Area attested in 1895-96.	...	1,814	1,814	...	685 224 5	685 224 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Total ...	...	1,814	1,814	...	914	914	...	...	...	...	...	...

STATEMENT IX.

Financial Statement for the year ending 30th September 1897.

MAIN SUB-HEAD OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment.	Expenditure to end of the previous year against each sub-head.	Expenditure during the year against each sub-head.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Pay and special allowance of—				
Settlement Officer ...	5,250	11,041 7 0	3,948 11 5	
Assistant Settlement Officer ...	28,350	37,916 14 9	16,745 1 5	
2. Fixed establishment ...	3,410	2,871 10 0	3,196 10 4	
3. Temporary establishment ...	18,750	32,035 15 8	31,525 13 4	
4. Contract and job work ...	18,500	11,817 2 11	17,979 1 4	
5. Travelling allowance—				
Of officers ...	6,900	11,049 4 4	5,343 15 6	
Of establishment ...	210	174 11 0	120 2 0	
6. Supplies and services—				
Forms ...	700	247 3 5	.....	
Tents ...	250	1,261 8 0	.....	
Petty constructions ...	250	197 0 0	.....	
Repairs ...	300	120 10 0	39 13 0	
7. Contingencies—				
Hot-weather charges ...	200	117 3 9	187 13 4	
Office rent ...	100	.....	5 0 0	
Service telegrams ...	200	94 8 0	65 15 0	
" postage ...	400	293 12 0	174 6 6	
Miscellaneous ...	3,730	11,862 1 4	8,527 4 11	
Total ...	87,500	1,21,102 0 2	87,859 12 1	

Statistical statement of status and rent

NAME OF THANA.	Number of villages for which statistics have been prepared.	PROPRIETOR'S PRIVATE LANDS.				IN THE CULTIVATING POSSESSION OF THE PROPRIETOR, BUT NOT PRIVATE LANDS.				CULTIVATED BY TENURE-HOLDERS INCLUDING UNDER-TENURE-HOLDERS.			
		Number of holdings.	Cropped area.	Uncropped area.	Total area.	Number of holdings.	Cropped area.	Uncropped area.	Total area.	Number of holdings.	Cropped area.	Uncropped area.	Total area.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Motihari	219	17	177.55	.06	177.61	79	2,073.38	34.86	2,107.24	447	8,376.46	384.73	8,761.19
Gobindganj	207	..	...	...	...	215	1,398.855	48.49	1,447.345	2,498	10,804.65	406.18	11,210.83
Kessaria	251	61	606.83	25.695	632.525	230	2,385.465	24.27	2,409.735	942	8,509.423	56.78	8,566.203
Madhuban	211	36	602.77	13.31	616.8	474	3,496.54	29.211	3,525.751	249	2,273.295	1.92	2,275.215
Adapur	198	9	72.411	1.51	73.921	143	2,199.81	2.28	2,202.09	651	5,061.96	65.80	5,127.76
Dhaka	247	232	2,256.477	106.625	2,363.102	314	3,546.39	.61	3,547.00	775	7,821.155	16.24	7,837.395
Bettiah	349	37	408.59	15.63	424.22	183	2,983.98	182.52	3,166.50	1,548	15,611.24	2,251.25	17,862.49
Shikarpur	62	13	419.27	...	419.27	24	233.40	4.96	243.36	299	3,324.89	...	3,324.89
Gopalganj	6	...	...	...	...	5	15.85	6.28	24.13	32	180.02	54.08	234.10
Total ...	1,750	410	4,543.898	162.83	4,706.728	1,617	18,337.67	335.481	18,673.151	7,441	61,963.095	8,236.98	65,200.073

	NON-OCCUPANCY RAIYATS (INCLUDING DIARA RAIYATS.)							RENT-FREE HOLDINGS.				
	Number of holdings.	Cropped area cash-paying and rent-free.	Uncropped area cash-paying and rent-free.	Total area cash-paying and rent-free.	Area on produce rent.	Total cash rent.	Rate of rent per cropped area cash-paying and rent-free.	Rate of rent per acre of the whole holdings excluding area on produce rent.	Number of holdings.	Cropped area.	Uncropped area.	Total area.
	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41
Motihari	2,017	1,998.97	366.13	2,365.10	1,145.43	Rs. 4,573 6 10	A. 2 4 7	P. 1 14 11	2,224	1,995.10	665.60	2,660.70
Gobindganj	1,836	2,310.91	560.92	2,871.83	604.49	5,082 10 6	2 3 2	1 12 0	1,958	3,187.52	796.225	3,983.745
Kessaria	1,602	2,157.143	231.901	2,389.044	609.253	5,329 3 8	2 7 6	2 3 7	2,038	3,909.031	680.962	4,589.993
Madhuban	309	520.69	21.806	542.496	73.16	1,961 13 0	3 12 4	3 9 10	761	1,037.94	201.168	1,239.108
Adapur	403	308.433	36.65	345.083	308.55	752 6 2	2 8 3	2 4 4	530	1,719.229	138.661	1,857.89
Dhaka	560	810.75	65.944	876.694	221.375	2,425 13 3	2 15 10	2 12 3	2,595	5,285.535	672.603	5,958.138
Bettiah	9,501	13,211.16	1,677.02	14,888.18	2,176.07	28,008 12 9	2 2 1	1 13 2	1,797	4,978.87	1,140.95	6,119.82
Shikarpur	194	238.74	5.23	243.97	215.50	230 0 9	1 2 9	1 2 4	223	509.53	45.07	554.60
Gopalganj	210	394.41	127.05	521.46	136.14	790 0 7	2 0 0	1 8 3	38	55.10	59.90	115
Total ...	16,728	21,951.206	3,118.661	25,069.867	5,489.973	49,819 5 6	2 3 11	1 15 5	12,199	22,622.455	4,401.139	27,078.694

MENT X.

as entered in the record of rights.

RAIYATS AT FIXED RATES OR RENTS.							SETTLED RAIYATS AND OCCUPANCY RAIYATS.							
Number of holdings.	Cropped area.	Uncropped area.	Total area.	Total cash rent.	Rate of rent per cropped area.	Rate of rent per area for whole holdings.	Number of holdings.	Cropped area cash-paying or rent-free.	Uncropped area cash-paying and rent-free.	Total area cash-paying and rent-free.	Area on produce rent.	Total cash rent.	Rate of rent per cropped area cash-paying and rent-free.	Rate of rent per area of the whole holding excluding area on produce rent.
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
153	2,001'28	287'88	2,289'13	Rs. A. P. 1,970 15 6	Rs. A. P. 0 15 9	Rs. A. P. 0 13 9	20,577	103,778'02	15,137'41	118,913'43	7,730'54	2,05,155 9 10	Rs. A. P. 1 15 7	Rs. A. P. 1 11 7
230	2,082'05	444'125	2,526'175	2,293 12 9	1 1 7	0 14 6	31,150	86,353'41	12,586'62	98,940'3	6,447'542	1,92,310 1 0	2 3 7	1 14 11
763	5,774'466	743'749	6,518'215	6,459 5 10	1 1 10	0 15 10	35,508	109,819'453	11,113'816	120,939'274	4,553'372	2,20,166 5 4	2 0 8	1 14 5
124	733'027	88'40	821'427	1,720 10 9	2 5 6	2 1 6	22,623	62,633'111	3,569'646	66,132'757	1,841'964	1,52,294 5 6	2 13 9	2 11 5
78	907'84	95'455	1,003'295	871 10 3	0 14 5	0 13 1	24,392	99,901'176	5,625'592	105,526'768	7,533'257	2,17,456 12 6	2 2 8	2 0 11
801	4,179'205	474'229	4,653'434	7,167 12 6	1 11 4	1 8 7	41,939	146,310'321	11,439'047	157,749'368	5,174'93	3,84,741 13 8	2 10 0	2 7 0
496	3,960'11	863'19	4,823'30	4,589 5 10	1 2 7	0 16 3	48,351	175,555'49	18,757'49	194,312'98	6,052'95	3,48,338 10 3	1 15 1	1 12 11
109	468'64	50'68	519'32	424 4 6	0 14 5	0 13 1	7,523	25,230'59	1,399'90	26,630'49	1,703'93	56,941 11 2	2 4 1	2 2 2
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	976	3,619'22	598'41	4,217'63	212'63	4,782 8 9	2 6 10	1 2 1
2,694	20,166'583	3,047'708	23,214'296	25,487 13 11	1 4 2	1 1 6	239,038	803,689'196	80,173'931	883,863'127	41,856'115	17,82,197 13 7	2 3 5	2 0 3

UNOCCUPIED LAND.			KAISER.	Total area of the villages.	UNDER RAIYATS.								REMARKS.
Number of holdings.	Total area.	Total area.	Number of holdings.		Cropped area cash-pay- ing and rent-free.	Uncropped area cash- paying and rent-free.	Total area cash-paying and rent-free.	Area on produce rent.	Total cash rent.	Rate of rent per crop- ped area cash-paying and rent-free.	Rate of rent per acre on whole holdings excluding area on produce rent.		
42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	
526 1,836 1,049 741 607 923 1,090 200 17	34,354'88 36,185'969 21,410'754 10,593'772 13,728'753 20,986'83 51,964'42 4,404'03 5,894'81	1,466'75 633'90 1,121'147 462'221 617'605 970'723 1,232'25 147'13 12'24	181,972'00 165,377'856 173,753'65 78,125'951 138,384'952 210,339'039 303,622'88 38,406'89 11,368'14	2,720 3,717 2,907 2,038 2,468 2,506 5,320 771 140	1,003'47 1,639'43 1,056'32 435'115 1,326'571 482'835 3,130'06 146'40 34'52	102'41 98'135 65'373 435'115 9'33 37'01 207'16 771 4'53	1,105'88 1,787'566 1,121'693 454'197 9'33 459'895 3,337'22 156'32 39'05	2,303'80 2,204'135 1,385'373 464'197 3,099'22 2,462'563 3,590'77 836'33 81'46	Rs. A. P. 1,141 13 9 3,869 3 6 2,127 4 0 1,180 5 0 531 14 3 1,236 2 0 4,929 0 4 334 6 3 61 14 6	Rs. A. P. 1 2 2 2 4 7 2 0 3 2 11 4 0 6 5 2 14 9 1 2 8 2 4 2 1 12 3	Rs. A. P. 1 0 6 2 2 7 1 14 4 2 9 6 0 6 4 2 10 11 1 7 11 2 2 3 1 4 2		
6,998	199,335'298	6,663'966	1,301,351'283	23,076	9,244'771	652'95	9,797'721	17,167'383	15,411 15 7	1 10 8	1 9 2		

STATEMENT XI.

Statistics of Cultivation.

NAME OF THANA.		CROPPED AREA.										CULTIVABLE AREA OTHER THAN CURRENT FALLOW.										AREA NOT AVAILABLE FOR CULTIVATION.									
		Bhadol.	Aghani.	Rabi.	Total.	Dofasli.	Net cropped area.	Current fallow.	Old fallow.	Mango groves.	Cultivable jungle.	Other kinds.	Total.	House site.	Water.	Other kinds.	Total.														
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10.	11	12	13	14	15	16	17															
Villages.																															
Motihari	64,104	253	34,418	793	478,638	697	50,020	623	128,618	672	6,626	727	22,680	951	5,201	519	1,049	723	976	154	20,918	547	2,043	74	8,089	344	6,073	77	16,808	854	
Gobindganj	64,905	604	43,055	585	62,514	57	121,100	112	125,486	62	3,649	653	19,364	657	6,387	604	617	509	2,973	978	20,453	705	1,739	195	9,736	389	11,832	999	23,418	788	
Kesariah	95,067	942	50,336	734	65,131	235	181,386	951	40,022	373	3,391	478	10,369	236	5,084	943	425	943	503	50	18,314	657	1,971	457	4,800	945	7,832	450	14,610	788	
Madhuban	65,653	662	23,029	523	37,813	235	186,337	436	62,553	712	1,036	333	3,369	201	2,142	073	317	010	617	919	608	998	1,832	403	3,972	534	2,516	976	7,331	168	
Adapur	64,823	523	64,823	523	172,071	138	81,188	549	121,552	615	9,348	323	10,429	879	2,136	488	617	919	608	998	19,330	124	1,683	171	4,894	911	2,516	976	7,331	168	
Dhaka	85,752	703	64,326	841	113,437	484	963,497	1295	177,607	659	9,943	363	16,239	879	7,379	88	799	844	1,906	518	70,780	893	2,400	776	6,534	631	5,383	523	14,647	130	
Beitah	119,254	912	94,309	765	113,981	365	327,465	114	305,452	445	83,991	985	52,550	883	9,894	093	10,919	601	4,308	101	19,138	533	4,308	101	19,138	533	15,789	692	39,234	123	
Shikarpur	72	11,402	100	118,504	424	305,452	445	83,991	985	231,460	45	6,266	558	52,550	883	5,401	18	10,919	601	1,397	824	70,688	577	2,299	297	13,045	887	9,347	944	26,623	128
Bagaha	87,133	578	86,437	549	122,212	945	292,784	672	77,773	268	11,436	553	34,469	825	4,511	114	29,837	324	2,625	415	144,494	508	2,438	522	25,989	186	26,908	364	55,353	972	
Gopalganj	1,834	270	2,586	940	3,537	200	7,958	410	4,588	100	11,436	553	34,469	825	4,511	114	29,837	324	2,625	415	144,494	508	2,438	522	25,989	186	26,908	364	55,353	972	
Total	658,244	135	557,947	308	794,235	287	2,010,426	730	871,866	453	47,395	867	255,242	980	43,802	113	76,867	018	18,829	893	399,741	104	20,777	602	100,779	287	91,983	815	213,493	104	

NAME OF THANA.		IRRIGATED AREA AND										DETAILS OF IRRIGATED AREA AS REGARDS CROPS.					NUMBER OF WELLS.			REMARKS.											
		Total unculti- vated, columns 8, 13 and 17.	Total area, columns 7 and 18.	Irrigated area.	Irrigated from wells.	Irrigated from Govern- ment canals.	Irrigated from private canals.	Irrigated from tanks and barahs.	Irrigated from other sources.	Rice.	Wheat.	Other cereals and pulses.	Other food crops.	Non-food crops.	Masonry.	Earthen.															
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33																
Villages.																															
Motihari	53,535	928	181,972	0	2,177	23	65	76	547	01	601	43	95	80	705	51	454	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Gobindganj	58,513	207	213	907	62	26	40	57	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Kesariah	181,990	297	177,386	585	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Madhuban	78,125	981	4,104	30	698	18	205	98	693	62	99	59	3,130	89	851	74	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Dhaka	34,921	47	214,238	915	2,381	70	114	645	1,059	28	38	605	98	33	1,031	87	1,110	84	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Beitah	120,394	012	357	533	871	146	97	562	46	23	36	40	23	65	1,700	240	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Shikarpur	102,578	563	32,439	0	3	9,793	45	9,793	45	1,042	91	6,940	67	284	49	414	21	886	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Bagaha	211,297	327	429,278	191	6,861	82	13	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gopalganj	6,780	649	11,368	140	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	660,632	975	2,069,192	402	25,530	73	1,550	905	2,967	74	14,376	165	828	89	6,063	36	7,929	540	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

STATEMENT XII.

Crop Statement.

NAME OF THANA.	CEREALS AND PULSE.										OILSEEDS.					SUGAR.		FIBRES.				Others.
	Wheat.	Barley.	Jowar (millet).	Bajra (millet).	Mandua.	Maize.	Gram.	Kodo.	Sama.	Other grains, including pulses.	Linseed.	Till or jingili.	Sesao.	Others.	Condiments and spices.	Sugarcane.	Others.	Cotton.	Jute.	Moonj.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Village.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.	A. D.
Moorthi ...	88,900 147	13,884 11	37,774 26	91 96	110 98	619 58	11,949 63	1,787 37	11,802 13	3,448 61	23,139 58	4,917 36	351 11	309 36	402 79	261 ...	116 12	...	177 53	21 06	71 99	86 69
Gobindganj ...	30,391 075	16,350 068	22,240 535	128 50	43 66	913 675	19,150 185	1,58 825	14,270 65	4,940 21	19,788 741	4,554 478	1,141 10	244 067	259 828	386 062	398 38	...	239 72	58 30	121 737	63 11
Kesari ...	43 046 69	13,108 643	73,520 891	149 43	108 27	948 914	21,058 492	375 681	19,900 751	2,570 409	19,505 275	4,152 749	48 133	563 659	306 817	536 124	...	...	426 904	12 435	205 864	5 76
Madhuban ...	19,876 63	2,606 179	11,657 507	149 466	32 815	170 635	6,662 064	96 70	5,265 594	1,053 759	15,651 529	5,533 21	73 873	341 286	354 971	408 816	...	...	30 69	6 709	123 016	12 459
Madapur ...	200 101,383 854	6,390 378	25,983 777	162 524	34 975	2,856 624	1,835 259	5,699 833	3,412 407	2,521 735	20,726 113	6,545 015	48 232	232 85	246 434	118 133	...	...	1 79	1 83	93 08	4 28
Dhaka ...	98,610 208	9,622 468	38,773 813	70 51	46 73	4,400 649	9,419 616	7,624 76	15,176 525	1,213 203	34,242 31	6,272 008	41 78	372 888	291 744	235 418	...	...	90 10	88 15	191 631	6 50
Bettiah ...	105,390 63	22,007 58	20,108 34	5,442 38	3,642 38	5,629 05	24,804 69	5,435 45	18,678 25	7,553 90	22,911 55	5,671 01	2,698 63	2,510 48	2,092 02	1,393 30	...	...	14,539 154	314 93	886 74	677 54
Shikarpur ...	672 175,996 723	17,563 293	11,436 712	69 23	28 813	1,707 871	2,998 114	12,492 131	2,513 973	1,165 67	30,133 477	14,075 986	331 825	2,920 621	6,390 914	470 88	...	...	35 60	6 33	98 18	0 93
Bagaha ...	433 121,853 259	15,412 991	20,325 064	101 54	140 676	1,402 539	22,603 813	2,856 896	15,129 23	5,618 657	32,053 712	11,640 986	379 45	1,478 10	4,294 03	1,420 118	...	...	82 64	7 735	1,019 703	84 95
Gopalganj ...	6 3,335 40	233 83	329 82	1 97	1 43	2 64	203 85	4 02	662 34	119 29	2,225 34	416 51	1 63	13 17	6 34	39 51	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	747,964 616	118,250 415	225,150 219	6,492 269	4,090 238	18,061 677	122,615 063	36,511 288	106,401 ...	30,217 633	223,277 49	61,679 285	5,014 763	8,969 481	14,784 295	5,861 044	12,947 232	...	2,544 678	618 719	2,362 339	842 549

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[illegible]

STATEMENT XIV.

Statement showing the transfer of occupancy rights in the area attested in 1896-97.

Camp number with pargana.	Number of villages attested.	Total area of villages attested in camp.	Total area held by raiyats.	Total number of raiyats. Khatians.	NUMBER OF TRANS- FER.			AREA OF ENTIRE HOLDING TRANSFERRED.			AREA OF PART HOLDING TRANS- FERRED.			TOTAL AREA TRANSFERRED.				PERCENTAGE TO COLUMN 14.			PERCENTAGE TO COLUMN 15.			PERCENTAGE TO COLUMN 16.		
					NUMBER OF TRANS- FER.			AREA OF ENTIRE HOLDING TRANSFERRED.			AREA OF PART HOLDING TRANS- FERRED.			TOTAL AREA TRANSFERRED.				PERCENTAGE TO COLUMN 14.			PERCENTAGE TO COLUMN 15.			PERCENTAGE TO COLUMN 16.		
					By sale.	By mortgage.	Total.	By sale.	By mortgage.	Total.	By sale.	By mortgage.	Total.	By sale.	By mortgage.	Total.	Of column 8.	Of column 11.	Of column 9.	Of column 12.	Of column 10.	Of column 13.				
1	2	3	38	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23			
	401	425,945	284,939	55,907	506	1,278	1,784	776,62	1,042,59	1,819,11	833,23	2,109,98	3,038,21	1,614,75	9,242,57	4,857,32	48,09	51,91	32,15	67,85	37,46	62,54				

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Camp number with pargana.	PERCENTAGE TO COLUMN 34.			PERCENTAGE TO COLUMN 4.			NUMBER OF TRANS- FERS TO.				PRICE PAID FOR AREA TRANSFERRED, IN RUPEES.				RATE PER ACRE FOR LAND TRANS- FERRED, IN RUPEES.				HIGHEST RATE PER ACRE, IN RUPEES.				LOWEST RATE PER ACRE, IN RUPEES.		REMARKS.
	Of column 14.	Of column 15.	Of column 16.	Of column 5	Of column 6.	Of column 7.	Landlords.	Lawyers.	Money-lenders.	Raiyats.	By sale.	By mortgage.	Total.	By sale.	By mortgage.	Total.	By sale.	By mortgage.	By mortgage.	By sale.	By mortgage.				
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43				
	56	114	170	90	229	319	77	26	714	967	36,143	85,927	1,22,070	22	26	25	230	90	5	5					

STATEMENT XV(a).

Statement showing progress made in recovery of costs of survey and settlement during the year ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF THANA.		TOTAL DEMANDS.										COLLECTED DURING THE PAST YEAR 1895-96.										COLLECTED DURING THE CURRENT YEAR 1896-97.									
		Landlords.		Raiyats.		Kaiser-i-Hind.		Total.		Landlords.		Raiyats.		Total.		Landlords.		Raiyats.		Total.		Landlords.		Raiyats.		Total.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12																				
Bettiah	201	Assessee. Rs. 4,614	Assessee. Rs. 27,393 13 4	Assessee. Rs. 118	Assessee. Rs. 68,633 10 2	Assessee. Rs. 13,439 8 7	Assessee. Rs. 97,580 9 8	Assessee. Rs. 2,318	Assessee. Rs. 21,150 8 11	Assessee. Rs. 56,096	Assessee. Rs. 84,613 6	Assessee. Rs. 1,070	Assessee. Rs. 10,920 13 3	Assessee. Rs. 200 0 0	Assessee. Rs. 1,260	Assessee. Rs. 20,129 13 3	Assessee. Rs. 2,050	Assessee. Rs. 28,183 7 10	Assessee. Rs. 4,970	Assessee. Rs. 21,437 1 5	Assessee. Rs. 2,838 0 9	Assessee. Rs. 732 1 0									
Mothari	177	Assessee. 2,615	Assessee. 15,097 15 6	Assessee. 182	Assessee. 40,641 8 9	Assessee. 29,617	Assessee. 57,534 9 9	Assessee. 2,073	Assessee. 1,025 2 4	Assessee. 2,308	Assessee. 1,282 11 10	Assessee. 4,960	Assessee. 21,430 13 3	Assessee. 6 4 2	Assessee. 4,970	Assessee. 21,437 1 5	Assessee. 15	Assessee. 2,838 0 9	Assessee. 10	Assessee. 732 1 0											
Gobindranj	177	Assessee. 10,664	Assessee. 37,123 14 11	Assessee. 57	Assessee. 87,123 14 11	Assessee. 225	Assessee. 6,770 6 3	Assessee. 1,25	Assessee. 706 8 1	Assessee. 1,359	Assessee. 928 13 6	Assessee. 4	Assessee. 2,780 2 1	Assessee. 1 14 11	Assessee. 10	Assessee. 732 1 0	Assessee. 15	Assessee. 2,838 0 9	Assessee. 10	Assessee. 732 1 0											
Kesariyah	28	Assessee. 571	Assessee. 3,453 4 6	Assessee. 17	Assessee. 3,470 4 6	Assessee. 1,897	Assessee. 4,288 14 3	Assessee. 125	Assessee. 706 8 1	Assessee. 1,359	Assessee. 928 13 6	Assessee. 4	Assessee. 2,780 2 1	Assessee. 1 14 11	Assessee. 10	Assessee. 732 1 0	Assessee. 15	Assessee. 2,838 0 9	Assessee. 10	Assessee. 732 1 0											
Gopalganj	6	Assessee. 1,615	Assessee. 3,572 11 9	Assessee. 2	Assessee. 3,574 11 9	Assessee. 1,897	Assessee. 4,288 14 3	Assessee. 125	Assessee. 706 8 1	Assessee. 1,359	Assessee. 928 13 6	Assessee. 4	Assessee. 2,780 2 1	Assessee. 1 14 11	Assessee. 10	Assessee. 732 1 0	Assessee. 15	Assessee. 2,838 0 9	Assessee. 10	Assessee. 732 1 0											
Total	...	Assessee. 18,609	Assessee. 1,54,910 2 1	Assessee. 276	Assessee. 2,17,590 4 1	Assessee. 135,632	Assessee. 2,17,590 4 1	Assessee. 2,731	Assessee. 23,185 7 3	Assessee. 61,411	Assessee. 37,495 9 4	Assessee. 8,099	Assessee. 73,173 5 2	Assessee. 217 3 1	Assessee. 8,905	Assessee. 73,390 8 3	Assessee. 8,905	Assessee. 73,390 8 3	Assessee. 8,905	Assessee. 73,390 8 3											

NAME OF THANA.		TOTAL AMOUNT FOR WHICH SET OFF HAS BEEN ALLOWED.										BALANCE.										REMARKS.				
		Landlords.		Raiyats.		Total.		Factories.		Other landlords.		Total.		Landlords.		Raiyats.		Total.		Kaiser-i-Hind.			Total.			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23																
Bettiah	Assessee. 3,388	Assessee. 21,359 8 11	Assessee. 24,747 8 11	Assessee. 6,968 6 11	Assessee. 49	Assessee. 7,017 4 12	Assessee. 7,017 4 12	Assessee. 1,222	Assessee. 11,491 6 4	Assessee. 22,335	Assessee. 15,683 11 7	Assessee. 82	Assessee. 22,919	Assessee. 495 1 6	Assessee. 22,919	Assessee. 33,020	Assessee. 30,005 14 10	Assessee. 3,912 5 6	Assessee. 4,261	Assessee. 2,877 15 9	Assessee. 99,022 15 11*					
Mothari	Assessee. 2,118	Assessee. 15,097 15 6	Assessee. 17,215 11 6	Assessee. 182	Assessee. 182	Assessee. 17,215 11 6	Assessee. 17,215 11 6	Assessee. 502	Assessee. 15,440 8 2	Assessee. 27,484	Assessee. 14,371 14 2	Assessee. 57	Assessee. 22,919	Assessee. 495 1 6	Assessee. 22,919	Assessee. 33,020	Assessee. 30,005 14 10	Assessee. 3,912 5 6	Assessee. 4,261	Assessee. 2,877 15 9	Assessee. 99,022 15 11*					
Gobindranj	Assessee. 5,185	Assessee. 37,123 14 11	Assessee. 42,308 14 11	Assessee. 57	Assessee. 57	Assessee. 42,308 14 11	Assessee. 42,308 14 11	Assessee. 225	Assessee. 6,770 6 3	Assessee. 6,770 6 3	Assessee. 1,25	Assessee. 706 8 1	Assessee. 1,359	Assessee. 928 13 6	Assessee. 4	Assessee. 2,780 2 1	Assessee. 1 14 11	Assessee. 10	Assessee. 732 1 0	Assessee. 732 1 0						
Kesariyah	Assessee. 571	Assessee. 3,453 4 6	Assessee. 3,453 4 6	Assessee. 17	Assessee. 17	Assessee. 3,453 4 6	Assessee. 3,453 4 6	Assessee. 1,897	Assessee. 4,288 14 3	Assessee. 4,288 14 3	Assessee. 1,25	Assessee. 706 8 1	Assessee. 1,359	Assessee. 928 13 6	Assessee. 4	Assessee. 2,780 2 1	Assessee. 1 14 11	Assessee. 10	Assessee. 732 1 0	Assessee. 732 1 0						
Gopalganj	Assessee. 1,615	Assessee. 3,572 11 9	Assessee. 3,572 11 9	Assessee. 2	Assessee. 2	Assessee. 3,572 11 9	Assessee. 3,572 11 9	Assessee. 1,897	Assessee. 4,288 14 3	Assessee. 4,288 14 3	Assessee. 1,25	Assessee. 706 8 1	Assessee. 1,359	Assessee. 928 13 6	Assessee. 4	Assessee. 2,780 2 1	Assessee. 1 14 11	Assessee. 10	Assessee. 732 1 0	Assessee. 732 1 0						
Total	Assessee. 10,530	Assessee. 87,433 7 3	Assessee. 87,433 7 3	Assessee. 9	Assessee. 9	Assessee. 87,433 7 3	Assessee. 87,433 7 3	Assessee. 6,968 6 11	Assessee. 69,716	Assessee. 69,716	Assessee. 1,217 13 9	Assessee. 1,217 13 9	Assessee. 276	Assessee. 1,217 13 9	Assessee. 276	Assessee. 1,217 13 9	Assessee. 65,932	Assessee. 99,022 15 11*	Assessee. 65,932	Assessee. 99,022 15 11*						

* Of the balance due from landlords, Rs. 44,243-13-9 is due from the Bettiah Raj. Nothing was collected from raiyats during the year, owing to famine, except a few arrears in last year's area.

L.—Statement of the cost of Recovery of Survey Settlement cost.

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Statement showing the work done in the Vernacular Department of the Champaran Settlement office during the year ending 30th September 1897.

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APPENDIX XII(iii).

SARAN—ANNUAL REPORT ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER 1897.

1. *Notifications.*—Operations were extended to all parts of the thanas of Gopalganj, Basantpur and Mashrakh which had not been included in previous notifications by a notification No. 4186L.R., published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 6th October 1896.

Notifications No. 4186L.R., dated 26th October 1896, and 4534T.R., dated 14th October 1895, so far as they affected the diara villages in the Gopalganj and Darauli thanas were cancelled by notification No. 104T.R., dated 5th September 1897, while Mirganj Bazar was excluded from the scope of our operations by notification No. 2854L.R., dated 20th September 1897. By notification No. 2836L.R., dated 17th September 1897, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 22nd September 1897, thana Darauli, Manjhi and Chapra have been brought under survey and settlement.

2. *Programme.*—The task originally allotted to us for the year was as follows:—

- (1) The supervision of khanapuri and disposal of boundary disputes in 507 square miles in the thanas of Basantpur, Gopalganj and Mashrakh.
- (2) The attestation of 670 square miles in the thanas of Mirganj, Gopalganj, Siwan, Darauli and Basantpur khanapuri during the field season of 1895-96.
- (3) The disposal of applications for the settlement of fair rents under section 104, Bengal Tenancy Act, and of objections under section 105 in the area attested in 1896-97, and of all pending applications under section 104, objections under section 105, and suits under section 106 filed referring to the area attested in 1894-95.
- (4) The completion of the records after case work.
- (5) The computation of cost in the area attested in 1894-95.

* In October, however, it became apparent that the agricultural distress which had declared itself would necessitate a serious curtailment of our field work programmes, and it was then decided to restrict survey and khanapuri to the Basantpur thana covering an area of 203 square miles where prospects were comparatively favourable. At the end of January orders were received in consequence of the demand for officers for employment on general work owing to the famine to close six of the eight attestation camps. This we did within a week, but were none the less able to attest 481·73 square miles, the three Assistant Settlement Officers left staying out in tents up to the middle of June.

3. *Staff of officers and distribution of work.*—I returned from special leave on 7th October 1896 and have since remained in charge. Mr. Gauntlett was in direct charge of the district throughout the year. From the 5th May to the 12th September 1897 he acted as Joint-Magistrate in charge at head-quarters Chapra in addition to his settlement duties. He was in camp 206 days, 164 of which were spent on settlement work and travelled by road more than 2,900 miles during the year. He visited every attestation camp twice, and each khanapuri officer once, before Christmas and inspected the whole of Manjhi and parts of Mashrakh and Gopalganj thanas to estimate the extent to which the scarcity would affect our operations. In statement II full information is given of the officers employed in this district, the period of their employment, their work, and the number of days each spent in tour. Babu Hem Chandra Chatterjee and Moulvi Ashfaq Hussein were on tour for over 320 days and Moulvi Afzalur Rahman for 297 days. Maulvi Ghulam Ghaus, the head-quarters Assistant Settlement Officer, was on tour 117 days. It is mainly owing to the zeal and loyalty with which these four officers laboured in tents during the hot weather when the staff was suddenly curtailed that it was found possible to complete so much of the attestation programme. I spent 61 days on tour in this district visiting it 10 times. As Saran commenced with a large staff of officers which again had to be suddenly reduced, it was the district which received my chief attention during the year.

4. *Record writing.*—The programme originally proposed was to complete the cadastral survey and record writing within an area of 507 square miles comprising the portion remaining of Gopalganj thana, the whole of Mashrakh, and practically the whole of Basantpur. To ascertain how far it was possible to carry it out, Mr. Gauntlett toured through the two former while I inspected Basantpur. As a result, I recommended that the operations should be confined to Basantpur thana, and this recommendation was accepted. Mr. Gauntlett writes:—“Subsequent events thoroughly justified the recommendation. Scarcity hardly showed itself in Basantpur thana until the whole of the record writing was completed, while the parts of Mashrakh and Gopalganj in which we abstained from doing any work were subsequently found to contain the worst tracts in the district.”

One survey camp in charge of Mr. A. W. Smart was at work from November until the end of March. Two Assistant Settlement Officers were employed in the supervision of khanapuri, and the decision of boundary disputes until the 17th February 1897, when Babu Prabodh Chandra Chatterjee was transferred to an attestation camp, and Maulvi Afzalur Rahman left in charge of the whole area.

Within the 203 square miles surveyed in Basantpur thana, there were found 318 villages and 405,525 plots. Thus the average size of each village was 408·55 acres, and of each plot ·32 acres. But whereas last year each square mile contained 1,945 plots, this year each square mile contains as many as 1,997 plots. Thus the average size of a plot is found as the work progresses to be growing smaller, and I can entertain no hope that a more favourable condition of things will be found in the neighbourhood of Chapra where operations will commence in the coming cold weather. The Survey Department in addition to the cadastral survey of Basantpur thana surveyed topographically 8·60 square miles of diara in the Gopalganj thana. As agricultural conditions there were favourable, and it was essential to secure the traverse stations before the river could rise and wash them away, Captain Crichton with my concurrence ordered the work to be carried through. I have described in the covering letter the procedure observed in dealing with diara villages exempted from survey and settlement under the Bengal Tenancy Act under orders contained in Government letter No. 914T.R., dated 12th October 1896.

The Khanapuri Assistant Settlement Officers inspected 264 villages, tested 4,998 entries and decided 3,466 interior disputes. About 20,000 disputes still remain undecided. They therefore tested 12 per cent. of the plots and decided 17 per cent. of the interior disputes. This is not so good an outturn as in Darbhanga, but both Assistant Settlement Officers in Saran were not employed on Khanapuri throughout the season. The figures, however, serve to emphasise what I have discussed in the covering letter, viz., the insufficiency of the agency for Khanapuri inspection. As many of the villages Khanapuri are in lease to factories, fewer difficulties were met with than is usually in the preliminary stages of our operations in this district.

The complexity of the tenures under which the Barhoga factory holds much of its land presented some interesting problems. Mr. Hodding, the proprietor, however had obtained the highest legal opinion on them and this materially assisted their solution. But there is one point which frequently came up for consideration, and to meet which there is no provision in the law. Section 22, Bengal Tenancy Act, clearly lays down that the occupancy rights of a raiyat subsequently acquiring proprietary or 16 annas tenure-holder's rights do not merge, but we are not told what happens if these rights are non-occupancy. Sir. G. Evans, to whom the point was referred by Mr. Hodding, gave the opinion that the non-occupancy rights would probably remain in abeyance to be revived when the raiyat ceased to enjoy once more the superior status. Mr. Gauntlett remarks that "the principle underlying this opinion is exactly the same as that laid down by the Advocate-General last year in his opinion upon the continuance of the *serait* character of lands, viz., that certain rights in lands may remain in abeyance while superior rights are exercised over the land, to revive again when those superior rights are removed." This difference, however, must be noted that in the case of *serait* lands the rights that remained in abeyance are those of a proprietor. The only ruling bearing on the subject of which I am aware is that given in the case of *Jowadul Huq versus Ram Das Saha*, in which the High Court definitely accept the principle that where a proprietor purchases occupancy holding in his own estate, he becomes the tenant of that holding, the occupancy rights meanwhile remaining in abeyance. I have discussed the possible effect of this ruling in my covering letter.

The question of the entry of areas upon the parchas has again occupied our attention. Last year the experiment was tried of having them entered in the field by the amin. This scheme was reported upon unfavourably and the Government of Bengal in letter No. 5574L.R., dated 30th December 1896, decided that it should be abandoned. Last field season therefore areas were entered on the parchas by the munsarims during the "bujharat" or preliminary attestation. This was found to entail very heavy work upon the munsarims and to give the raiyats insufficient time to consider whether the areas entered were correct. A scheme of distributing area slips separate from the parchas will be tried during the coming season and has been described in my covering letter.

Speaking generally the survey and preliminary record writing was well done, certainly very much better than in the year previous. There was some slight friction between one of the factories and the Survey Department which might have been avoided. I think if Mr. Smart, the Assistant Superintendent of Survey, had shown more consideration and tact, but on the whole considering the extremely unfavorable conditions of the year, the work was carried through with remarkable smoothness.

5. *Boundary disputes*.—One hundred and thirty boundary disputes were instituted during the year under report and all have been decided. Fifty-four by Babu Prabodh Chandra Chatterjee and 76 by Maulvi Afzular Rahman. Thirty-four appeals were lodged and all have been decided by me by virtue of the order contained in notification No. 1168L.R., published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 19th March 1897, vesting me with the powers of a Superintendent of Survey under Act V of 1875. The Assistant Settlement Officers' decisions were upheld in 22 cases, modified in 2, and reversed in 10.

6. *Attestation*.—The attestation programme for the year under report was a particularly heavy one containing no less than 1,303,708 plots. Only eight Assistant Settlement Officers were employed, so that each Assistant Settlement Officer was given a programme averaging 163,000 plots and that in an area full of difficulties. An excellent start was made and there seemed to be reasonable hope that the programme, heavy though it was, would be carried through to a successful issue when owing to the exigencies of famine six of the eight attestation officers were removed for duty elsewhere and our arrangements were entirely

disorganised. Mr. Gauntlett, however, had drawn out the detailed programmes of the attestation camps so well that it was seen that if only the balance of attestation in the isolated camps numbered I, III and VI could be completed during the season, the work remaining would be in a compact block lying round Siwan. Arrangements were accordingly made. I am glad to be able to report that owing to the zeal displayed by the officers entrusted with the work, this object was fully accomplished.

In last year's report it was stated that the smallest subdivision of proprietary rights which Mr. Gauntlett had found was 1 "til," which is $\frac{1}{321800000}$ of a rupee. This year, however, he reports: "I have come across a subdivision called a 'ken', which is $\frac{1}{737280000000}$ of a rupee. The Chainpur Babus apparently found this excessive subdivision necessary so as to give them more to fight about!"

In the annual report for 1895-96 it was noted that there were certain villages in which the khandari had been "rushed," and certain areas where the work would be very difficult, which would receive our special attention during attestation. Babu Siva Sankar Singh and Maulvi Ashfaq Hussein were specially chosen to do the work in these tracts. Babu Siva Sankar Singh, the senior and most experienced Assistant Settlement Officer, was employed in a difficult area which is largely owned by the Chainpur Babus. He was specially warned of the necessity for safeguarding the rights of the raiyats against these oppressive landlords; but as there was reason to fear that he was not doing so, Mr. Gauntlett checked the attestation of certain villages, with the result that Babu Siva Sankar Singh was shown to have utterly failed in his duty. His conduct was specially reported, and the Board administered to him a severe reprimand. All the Chainpur villages attested by him were reattested by Maulvi Ashfaq Hussein, but without bringing anything more of much importance to light. Regarding attestation work of the latter officer, Mr. Gauntlett writes: "Of Maulvi Ashfaq Hussein's work I cannot but speak in the highest terms. There was hardly a single village he attested in which he did not have some complicated and serious disputes to decide, and the reports submitted by him from time to time are a monument of detective zeal and energy. The following little anecdote may indicate the nature of his work. Mr. Lyall, the Subdivisional Officer, was riding one day through some villages close to Maulvi Ashfaq Hussein's camp, when he was met by a crowd of villagers. They said 'Hazur! we have a complaint to make against the Deputy.' Mr. Lyall said 'What Deputy?' The villagers said 'Maulvi Ashfaq Hussein;' 'but Mr. Gauntlett tells me he does his work very well,' said the Subdivisional Officer. 'Oh! yes,?' they said, 'his justice is wonderful; but, Hazur, he is up at sunrise and is making local enquiries until midday, and we have to be with him then. He then returns to camp and works there until midnight, and we have to be present then. He allows us no time even to get our food. Hazur, this is a time of famine and we are weak; how can we go from sunrise until midnight without food? This is our complaint.' I can only regret that no worse complaint than this has never been lodged against any officer. The conduct of Babu Akhauri Barhamdeo Narain Singh, an Attestation Assistant Settlement Officer, who reported his peshkar for accepting bribes on what appeared to be very inadequate grounds, came under notice. Mr. Gauntlett made a long and careful inquiry which I subsequently supplemented. The Assistant Settlement Officer's misconduct was specially reported, and he was transferred to Darbhanga, being replaced by Mahomed Yusuf Ali.

Coming to the actual work, the following are "interesting cases" that came to notice during the year:—

In Guthni (Camp I) a malik was sold up 16 years ago by the Collector. He disputed the sale in the Commissioner's Court and then in the Civil Court and lost. He disputed the registration of the buyer's name in the Collectorate registers and lost. He was fined Rs. 300 in the Criminal Courts for resisting the buyer taking possession. In spite of all, however, he is still in possession!

In Chakri (Camp I) Mr. Gauntlett had to do part of the khandari himself in 1895-96, as the maliks absolutely prevented the raiyats claiming any part of the land. The remaining portion was then under water, and on it becoming dry had to be khandaried by the Attestation Assistant Settlement Officer last cold weather, this being the only way of ensuring that the raiyats claimed their just rights. One village in Camp II, Kilpur (Pachlakh), has an area of 184.31 acres and contained 557 plots. There are 82 entries in the proprietor's khewat and 8 in the tenure-holder's khewat. The record contains 245 khatians only. Every rent in a village in Camp III, Manpur Pategi, was in dispute, and the closest enquiries by Mr. Rowland Nagendro Lal Chandra and Maulvi Ashfaq Hussein have failed to elicit good evidence of the actual rents paid; but it is hoped that those recorded will eventually be accepted by both parties. Much of the work of Maulvi Ashfaq Hussein in Camp IV is full of interest. I will select one instance.

A little village, Bhatwalia by name, formerly belonged to some "birdars," who, having to pay no revenue, were content with a rent from their raiyats of Rs. 2 per bigha. It was at last sold up, however, about 20 years ago, and passed to some Kayasths of a neighbouring village. They raised the rents to over Rs. 6 per bigha and cut down the "laggi" from 6½ "haths" to 5½ "haths." The principal raiyat of the village was appointed their gumashta, which enabled them for the time to enforce these iniquitous enhancements, but the raiyats always resented the change of the "laggi." At length, however, the landlords having quarrelled with the gumashta who possessed all the papers, the raiyats refused to pay the

enhanced rents, and deposited rents at the rate of Rs. 2 per bigha in the Civil Court and fabricated receipts. The "maliks" sued them, claiming a rent still higher than that actually paid. They too had to fabricate evidence which, however, did not cause them much difficulty. But the Civil Court believed the raiyats and gave them a decree for Rs. 2 a bigha. Then the maliks applied for a survey and settlement under section 105, Bengal Tenancy Act, which was granted, but fortunately not completed, as the real facts had never been ascertained. We were therefore in no way bound by it. Maulvi Ashfaq Hussein by a sudden descent on the village obtained all the papers which were in the possession of the gumashta, including the old "jamabandis" and "wasulbaqis," and an account showing receipts and expenditure of a fund subscribed by the raiyats to fight the maliks, which was a most entertaining document throwing much light on backstairs methods. With these papers the Assistant Settlement Officer was master of the situation, and with his aid the parties soon came to terms.

Maulvi Ghulam Ghaus when in charge of Camp VI did an excellent piece of work in his treatment of the village of Koel. He had been warned by Mr. Gauntlett that there was reason to suspect the raiyats' rents had been illegally enhanced at a recent date by the Koel Babu, the sole proprietor of this very big village, but when he came to attest he found that every single raiyat agreed to the rent as stated by the proprietor and produced printed receipts in substantiation of his statement. At length, however, a bundle of receipts was handed in by a raiyat in connection with a dispute that had no reference to rent, and amongst them Maulvi Ghulam Ghaus found one in which the rent entered differed from that attested. Acting on this he called on the raiyats to produce the proper receipts, and at last under threat of punishment they eventually did so, and the Assistant Settlement Officer was thus able to attest the existing rents. This case illustrates how helpless the raiyats of a powerful and unscrupulous landlord are, and how difficult it often is for us to help them to secure their rights.

The conduct of the Chainpur Babus has already been incidentally referred to, and it appears to be one long record of chicanery and subterfuge. I will furnish a few examples. A false owner of a field was set up, sued for rent and the holding sold. The real owner whom it was the object of the zamindar to oust knew nothing of the transaction until the Civil Court gave possession to the purchaser. In Bhikhpur Bhagwanpur the jamabandis, &c., produced by them were found to be false. In Husena and Chitauli half the lands in the village were entered in the names of their servants, the real raiyats being entered as under-raiyats. In Rajanpura some 30 raiyats have been forced to abandon their holdings within the last year. In some cases the raiyats had been forced to file compromises at attestation, agreeing to pay very much higher rents than they had previously paid. No attempt was made to do this legally under section 104, and Babu Siva Sankar Singh accepted these compromises. One kanungo had to be dismissed because a compromise filed by one of the Babus and a raiyat was altered while in the kanungo's possession very much to the benefit of the Babu. Finally, with a view no doubt to impair the value of our record, they applied to get certain of their estates which we had already attested demarcated by the Collector under section 5, Act V of 1875. Fortunately these applications came under the notice of Mr. Gauntlett when he was transferred to act as Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector at Chapra, and the Collector being informed of the facts straightway rejected them.

The above will give some idea of the great difficulties with which an attestation officer in this district has to contend and with what success they are not unfrequently surmounted. Needless to say, the number of disputes decided was enormous. During the attestation of 920,013 plots, 34,500 disputes were disposed of, excluding those relating to rents which were numerous in nearly every village, and 13,109 dealt with at Khanapuri. The number of khatians attested was 161,915, giving an average per holding of over $5\frac{1}{2}$ plots. It is satisfactory to note that three villages only remained unattested at the close of the year and that for reasons beyond control.

7. *Recess work.*—Three Assistant Settlement Officers, Babu Hem Chandra Chatterjee, Maulvi Ashfaq Hussein and Maulvi Afzalur Rahman, were entrusted with case work which, however, was not properly started until the end of June. They were employed first of all on deciding objections under section 105 in villages where few in number, so as to make the records of those villages ready for check work in office. They then took up the villages of their respective areas in order, doing sections 104 and 105 work simultaneously. This arrangement worked very satisfactorily, enabling the office check department to start work much earlier than it otherwise would have done.

(1) *Settlement of fair rents.*—Nine hundred and ninety-six cases affecting 10,826 tenants have been instituted. This is a large number for so small an area. Many cases were filed by the Court of Wards' estates of Hathua, Majhauili and Khajwa. Mr. Gauntlett writes: "This corroborates what the local officers have always insisted upon that, with the example of the Hathua Raj before their eyes, the 'maliks' of this district are certain to file applications under section 104 to a far greater extent than has been done in other districts." It must, however, be borne in mind that in every district this work has largely increased since the procedure has been better understood. It is much heavier, too, in Champaran than in this district.

Seven hundred and twenty-five cases involving 6,413 tenants were decided during the year, leaving 271 pending. All enhancements under section 30 were agreed to by compromise and nearly all under section 52. The total rental was raised from Rs. 80,428 to Rs. 85,021, an increase of 5·71 per cent. Of this, 7·62 per cent. was under section 52, and 1·13 per cent. under section 30, while there was a decrease of 2·04 per cent. under section 52—I(b). The greatest care has been taken to see that the compromises are reasonable, and that the principles laid down by the High Court in the case of the Maharani of Bettiah *versus* Sahh Gund, &c., were strictly followed. In the Hatwa Raj villages where the standard of measurement is uniform, the scrutiny of compromises was simple. In other villages the standard of measurement prevalent in the village was ascertained, and where different from that by which the survey areas were converted, compensating allowance was required in addition to the allowance given for difference in mode of measurement. The enhancements under section 30 were only granted in cases in which the raiyats were previously holding at disproportionately low rates of rent, and in these cases too the compromises were carefully scrutinised.

In the area attested in 1894-95, 72 fair rent cases were still pending at the beginning of the year, and 28 new cases have since been instituted. All have been disposed of mainly by Maulvi Ghulam Ghaus. As was stated in last year's report many new cases had been accepted after objections under section 105 had been decided, but as the section 105 objections were shown to be groundless, there was reason to believe that they had been instituted merely with a view to afford an opportunity for bringing cases under section 104 out of time against raiyats who had been overlooked. The cases were split up into 115 in number, and were considered in detail after referring to the section 105 cases concerned. Of these, 63 were accepted, and out of these again 21 were subsequently thrown out, as they referred to rent-free tenures, and the tenants denied the relationship of landlord and tenant.

Owing to decisions under section 105 affecting holdings with reference to which cases under section 104 had already been decided, 375 cases for the review of the original cases were instituted, of which 358 were decided. Rents were raised from Rs. 8,195 to Rs. 8,462 entirely under section 52, *i.e.*, by 3·27 per cent. This percentage which at first sight seems rather large is caused by plots entered as rent-free being decided under section 105 to be liable to pay rent. Mr. Gauntlett writes: "As all the case work under section 104 is now finally completed in this area (1894-95), it may be well to review the figures generally. The total number of cases instituted was 3,372, affecting 42,240 tenants. The total rental of holdings affected was raised from Rs. 4,58,713 to Rs. 5,18,168, being an increase of 12·96 per cent. The increase under section 52 was 11·28 per cent., under section 30 3·13 per cent., and the decrease under 52—I(b) 1·45 per cent. The total rental of the whole area has been raised from Rs. 9,03,250 to Rs. 9,62,705, an increase of 6·6 per cent. The increase under section 52 was 5·74 per cent., under section 30 1·59 per cent., and the decrease under section 52—I(b) 0·74 per cent. The total rental of Hathua villages throughout the area was previously Rs. 8,14,519, and this was raised to Rs. 8,73,983, an increase of 7·2 per cent. The increase under section 52 was 6·23 per cent., under section 30 1·79 per cent., and the decrease under section 52—I(b) 0·82 per cent. All these figures include increases granted in review cases." The settlement of rents in the Hatwa Raj estates is not yet completed. Nearly all the villages in Camp VI of last year's attestation area belong to the Raj, and case work there is now proceeding. In next year's annual report, we shall be able to review with more completeness the pecuniary and other advantages that have accrued to the estate from the settlement, but it is clear already that the increase in the rent-roll for the whole estate will work out to something over 6 per cent.

Sixty-eight appeals were lodged during the year, making a total of 244. Of these 57 have been decided by the Special Judge. In eight cases he upheld the original decisions, in two modified, and in three reversed them. The other cases were remanded for further enquiry, and I am confident that the Assistant Settlement Officers' decisions will in the majority be ultimately accepted. I venture to think that, had the Special Judge remanded the cases in which he reversed the original decision, in these, too, the results might have been otherwise.

7(2) *Case work under section 105.*—Two thousand seven hundred and forty-eight cases were pending from last year, and 353 cases have been filed this year, with reference to the old area. All these cases have been decided.

In the area attested this year 3,915 cases have been instituted. Of these, 3,351 cases have been decided, leaving only 564 pending.

Particular care has been taken to ensure against orders passed after careful and lengthy enquiry at attestation being upset by a summary order under section 105 without due cause. Case officers have been supplied with all reports submitted by attestation officers relating to important disputes and communicate freely with the Assistant Settlement Officer in charge on any question of importance that arises. The danger is one that has to be looked for particularly in villages where the tenants are overawed by the landlord, and dare not place the result of a former enquiry before the case officer. In an instance now under my consideration, a landlord has succeeded in getting enhanced rents recorded by compromise under section 105. Existing rents were carefully inquired into at attestation, and the decisions under section 105 will probably have to be revised.

In one village, Jafra, 136 petitions under section 105 were filed by the maliks, claiming in some cases a very large area as *zerait*, and in others that the raiyats' rents entered at attestation were too low. The question of the *zerait* land had been carefully enquired into at Khanapuri by Mr. Gauntlett, and most conclusive evidence obtained that the land was not *zerait*, although entered in batwara papers as *zerait*. The rent question had also been carefully decided at attestation, and all these petitions therefore were thrown out.

On the whole I think the case work has been well and carefully done. I hope to retain one Assistant Settlement Officer on it until the end of November, by which time I trust the files will be almost cleared.

7(3). *Case work under section 106.*—Four hundred and eleven cases have been instituted in the area attested in 1894-95, bringing the total up to 539. Of these 256 cases have been decided mainly by Mr. Gauntlett and Maulvi Ghulam Ghaus, and 261 cases are still pending. Twenty-nine appeals were lodged, two have been decided, and in both cases the original decisions were upheld.

In the area attested this year, 92 cases have been filed up to date.

The section 106 work in this district is light. Only one case was decided deserving special mention. The question at issue was whether occupancy rights could accrue in lands let for grazing. It was decided by Maulvi Ghulam Ghaus that occupancy rights could not accrue; but that the tenant could not be ejected without serving on him a notice to quit under the Transfer of Property Act.

8. *Draft publication.*—The eight records pending from the attestation season 1894-95 were draft published during the year under report.

Of the 934 records attested this year, 615 records have been draft published, leaving 319 pending. The work was delayed by the heavy tale of case work under section 104, but is well in hand and will be finished by the middle of December.

8. *Final publication.*—Of the records attested in 1894-95, 998 have been finally published during the year under report. The remaining records will be finally published before the end of December.

The heavy file of pending section 106 cases, in this as in every other district, coupled with the fact that, in many cases, as soon as the notice of final publication was published in the village, a case under section 106 was hastily drawn up and filed, so that final publication could be stopped while the maliks or raiyats had time to prepare other cases at leisure, led to a reconsideration of the order that no record should be finally published until all the section 106 case work was completed with reference to it, and under the revised instructions records are now finally published piecemeal.

9. *Office work.*—Constant changes in *personnel* have interfered with the work in office. Maulvi Ghulam Ghaus who was in direct charge had to be transferred to an attestation camp for two months in February last under circumstances that have been already detailed, but since May he has been continuously at head-quarters, and the office is rapidly showing signs of his careful supervision. Then the head clerk, sarishtadar and head peshkar had in turn to be removed for insubordination, ill health and inefficiency respectively. None the less the results of the year's work are satisfactory. Of the 1,208 villages attested in 1894-95, 1,066 have been finally published and the office work in the remainder has been completed, while in the villages attested last season all branches of office work are now in full swing and good progress is being made. Over 8 lakhs of plots have passed through check, copying and final check during the year.

Regarding the records attested last season Mr. Gauntlett writes:—"The check so far has shown that the records sent in by the attestation camps this year are the most correct which have yet been prepared."

In this district as in others office work has been much hampered by the dilatoriness of the Bengal Drawing Office in returning correction lists after the extraction of areas. Captain Crichton succeeded in getting the staff engaged on this work strengthened, but even so delays are frequent and the matter requires attention.

10. *Computation and recovery of costs.*—Recovery has not yet been started, but computation for 802 villages has been completed. The Champaran computation forms have been used, as nearly all the records computed were of villages belonging to the Hatwa Raj. Government in letter No. 532, dated 8th February 1897, directed the recovery of cost in Saran district to be made under section 114, Bengal Tenancy Act, at the rate of 10 annas an acre according to the apportionment between Government, landlords and tenants sanctioned by the Secretary of State for the whole of Bihar. Computation is therefore slightly more difficult in this district than in Muzaffarpur and Champaran, because the rates of cost per acre for landlords and raiyats work out to fractional sums, viz., Re. 0-4-4½ and Re. 0-3-1½ respectively. Whenever half pies occur in totals, whole pies are substituted. Printed computation tables have of course been supplied; but the fractions of pies complicate the calculations to a certain extent. I have every reason to believe, however, that the work is being done correctly. Computation acts as a very severe check upon the record in many ways, and it is satisfactory to know that very few errors of any importance have been detected.

During the year under report and before the close of the financial year 1896, the Hatwa Raj paid in advance an instalment of Rs. 50,000 as part of the costs due from the estate, and for this a set off will be given.

11. *Expenditure.*—The cost up to the end of last year and during the year under report is to be found in statement IX.

Owing to the various changes in the programme caused by the scarcity, it was found necessary to revise the quinquennial estimates. The result has been to raise the settlement estimates by Rs. 53,000. The survey estimates have also been increased, and the grand total now comes to Rs. 11,76,000.

12. *Statistics of rents and status.*—In statement X will be found details of rents and status in 1,025 villages of thana Mirganj and 183 villages of thana Gopalganj. In Mirganj the total area comes to 259,983 acres, *i.e.*, 406·2 square miles, and in Gopalganj to 65,508 acres, *i.e.*, 102·35 square miles. These figures do not agree with the milan khasra and jinswar figures, but agree very nearly with the total areas as given by the Survey Department. The area statement and crop statement figures will be checked again, but this could not be done in time for this report.

In Mirganj of the total area 3,773 acres, or 1·45 per cent., are held as maliks' *serait*, 3,690 acres, or 1·42 per cent., as *bakasht malik*, 7,750 acres, or 2·95 per cent., as *bakasht thikadar*, 323 acres, or ·12 per cent., by tenants at fixed rates, 192,829 acres, or 74·16 per cent., by occupancy and settled raiyats, 6,123 acres, or 2·35 per cent., by non-occupancy raiyats, 12,302 acres, or 4·75 per cent., rent-free, 31,947 acres, or 12·28 per cent., are uncultivated and not included in any holding, and 1,245 acres, or ·48 per cent., belong to public bodies, 6,408 acres, or 2·46 per cent., are in the possession of under-raiyats. Of the total area held by occupancy and settled raiyats, 4,089 acres, or 2·12 per cent., are held *bhaoli*; of the area held by non-occupancy raiyats 418 acres, or 6·83 per cent., and of the area held by under-raiyats 1,213 acres, or 18·95 per cent. Of the total area in the possession of raiyats 199,276 acres, only 4,507 acres, or 2·26 per cent., are held *bhaoli*.

The rates of rent are as follows:—Raiyats holding at fixed rates Rs 3-13-9 per acre of the whole holdings, occupancy and settled raiyats Rs. 3-14-6 per acre of whole holdings. Non-occupancy raiyats Rs. 3-10-7 per acre of whole holdings, and under-raiyats Rs. 3-15-6. The rates in Gopalganj were referred to in last year's report and will be reviewed after the whole thana has been attested.

In the new area statistics of status can alone be given. The number of holdings attested was 161,915. Of these 346, or ·21 per cent., were proprietor's private land, 7,104, or 4·38 per cent., *bakasht malik*, 2,828, or 1·74 per cent., *bakasht thikadar*, 581, or ·36 per cent., held at fixed rates, 127,602, or 78·76 per cent., held by occupancy raiyats, 76, or ·04 per cent., by settled raiyats, 2,179, or 1·35 per cent., by non-occupancy, 12,715, or 7·87 per cent., rent-free, 67, or ·04, by *diara* raiyats, 7,973, or 4·9 per cent., uncultivated lands, 442, or ·27 per cent., held by Government, 11,904, or 7·35 per cent., were held by under-raiyats. The percentages held rent-free and by under-raiyats are high. The danger of unscrupulous landlords getting the actual cultivators recorded as under-raiyats and their own creatures as raiyats is one that has constantly to be faced and to it was given my particular attention; special explanations being required from the attestation officers in all cases where the number of under-raiyats appeared to be excessive.

13. *Statistics of area.*—Statistics of area have been compiled for the whole of Mirganj (1,064 villages), the whole of Siwan (586 villages), the whole of Basantpur (401 villages), nearly all Darauli (480 villages), and part of Gopalganj (242 villages). Out of the total area 272,486·4 acres, or 425·75 square miles of Mirganj thana, 82·5 per cent. is cropped and 17·5 per cent. is uncultivated. Of the net cropped area, 45·7 per cent. is under *bhadoi* crop, 25 per cent. is under *aghani* and 66·3 per cent. is under *rabi* crops. 37 per cent., therefore, is twice cropped. Of the total uncultivated area, 3·4 per cent. is current fallow, 36 per cent. is old fallow, 23·8 per cent. is mango orchard, and 33·6 per cent. is unculturable. Very little of the 36 per cent. of old fallow is in any way suitable for cultivation, but this forms only 6·3 per cent. of the total area. Of the net cropped area, as much as 25·9 per cent. is irrigated. Of the irrigated area, 58·9 per cent. is irrigated from wells, of which there are 3,568 "*pucka*" and 404 "*kutchi*," and 24·8 per cent. from tanks, &c. Of the irrigated area, only 2 per cent. is rice and 10 per cent. wheat land. 60 per cent. is sown with other cereals and pulses, and 15·3 per cent. with non-food crops, chiefly opium.

In Siwan of the total area 209,566 acres, or 327·4 square miles, 81·6 per cent. is cropped and 38,530 acres, or 18·4 per cent., are uncultivated. Of the net cropped area, 39 per cent. is under *bhadoi* crop, 43·6 per cent. under *aghani* crop, and 48·4 per cent. under *rabi*. No less than 31 per cent. is twice cropped. Of the total uncultivated area 5 per cent. is current fallow, 28·3 per cent. old fallow, 18·6 per cent. mango orchard, and 44·3 per cent. unculturable. Of the net cropped area, 12·6 per cent. is irrigated. Of the irrigated area, 73·2 per cent. is irrigated from 2,762 *pucka* and 210 *kutchi* wells, and 19·4 per cent. from tanks. Of this area 6·3 per cent. is under rice and 3·9 per cent. is under wheat, 50 per cent. is under other cereals and pulses, while 35 per cent. is under non-food crops, chiefly opium and sugarcane.

In Basantpur, of the total area 157,336 acres, or 245·8 square miles, 79·3 per cent. is cropped and 32,683 acres, or 20·7 per cent., is uncultivated. Of the cropped area, 42 per cent. is under *bhadoi* crop, 38·5 per cent. under *aghani* crop, and 48·2 per cent. under *rabi* crop. 28·7 per cent. is twice cropped. Of the uncultivated area, 4·8 per cent. is current fallow, 36·8 per cent. old fallow, and 22·4 per cent. mango orchard: 30·6 per cent. is not available for cultivation: 10 per cent. of the cultivated area is irrigated: 80·2 per cent. from wells, and 7·5 per cent. from tanks. Of the irrigated area, 7·6 per cent. is under wheat, 48·2 per cent. under other cereals, and 36·2 per cent. under non-food crops. There are 3,042 *pucka* and 698 *kutchi* wells.

In Darauli thana, of the area surveyed up to the present, 158,263 acres, or 248·3 square miles, 73·1 per cent. is cropped, and 26·9 per cent. uncultivated. Of the cropped area, 26·5 per cent. is under *bhadoi* crop, 46·3 per cent. under *aghani* crop, and 44 per cent. under *rabi* crop. 16·8 per cent. is twice cropped. Of the uncultivated area, 7·2 per cent. is current fallow, 21·7 per cent. old fallow, 13·2 per cent. mango groves, and 52·1 per cent. unculturable. Of the cultivated area, 33 per cent. is irrigated. Of the irrigated area, 66 per cent. is irrigated from 2,194 *pucka* and 350 *kutch*a wells, and 25 per cent. from tanks. Only 4 per cent. of the irrigated area is under rice, 66·1 per cent. being under cereals and pulse, and 23·8 per cent. under non-food crops, chiefly opium. Up to the present, only half the area of Gopalganj thana has been surveyed. The statistics will be renewed after the survey of the remaining portion has been completed.

The figures for the total area *khanapuried* up to date are as follows:—

The total area is 883,963 acres, or 1,387·2 square miles. Of this, 79·7 per cent. is cultivated and 20·3 per cent. uncultivated. Of the net cropped area, 40·7 per cent. is under *bhadoi* crop, 36·4 per cent. under *aghani* crop, and 54·6 per cent. under *rabi* crop. 31·7 per cent. is twice cropped. Of the uncultivated area, 5·6 per cent. is current fallow, 31·6 per cent. old fallow, 19·3 mango groves, and 40 per cent. unculturable. Of the net cropped area, 19 per cent. is irrigated, and of the irrigated area 68·4 per cent. is irrigated from 12,655 *pucka* and 1,782 *kutch*a wells, and 22·3 per cent. from tanks. 3·3 per cent. is under rice, 6·4 per cent. under wheat, 60·4 per cent. under other cereals and pulses, and 24·7 per cent. under non-food crops.

The chief points of interest elicited from these figures are the comparatively small area under *aghani* crop in all thanas except Darauli, the large area under *rabi* in all the thanas, the very large twice-cropped areas in Mirganj and Siwan thanas, the comparatively large uncultivated area in Darauli, which is, however, chiefly unculturable, the general extent of irrigation, especially in Darauli, and the fact that rice and wheat are hardly irrigated at all. With regard to the very large figures for irrigation in Darauli, it must be remembered that this represents the irrigation for the crops of 1895-96, when the rainfall was comparatively small. The great extent to which opium and other non-food crops are irrigated is also noticeable.

14. *Crop statistics.*—In Mirganj, of the net cropped area, 31·5 per cent. is under rice, 8 per cent. under wheat, 22 per cent. under barley, 6·6 per cent. under maize, 11·5 per cent. under *kodo*, and 31·1 per cent. under other food crops. Only 3·7 per cent. is under sugar-cane and 1 per cent. under indigo, but opium is grown on 4·1 per cent.

In Siwan, of the net cropped area, 38 per cent. is under rice, 3·9 per cent. under wheat, 11·6 per cent. under barley, 6·4 per cent. under *marua*, 15·4 per cent. under maize, and 26·3 per cent. under other food crops. 4·8 per cent. is under sugar-cane, 2·9 per cent. under indigo, and 3·5 per cent. under opium. There are 29,841 palms of various sorts.

In Basantpur, of the net cropped area, 28·6 per cent. is under rice, 5·8 per cent. under wheat, 16·4 per cent. under barley, 4·4 per cent. under *marua*, 17 per cent. under maize, 10·8 per cent. under other food crops. Only 6 per cent. is under sugarcane, but 8·3 per cent. is under indigo and 3·4 per cent. under opium. There are 28,734 palms of various sorts.

In Darauli, of the net cropped area, 37 per cent. is under rice, only 8 per cent. under wheat, 17 per cent. under barley, 5·4 per cent. under *marua*, 3·8 per cent. under maize, and 28·2 per cent. under other food crops. 9·9 per cent. here is under sugarcane, but only 8 per cent. under indigo, 1·6 per cent. under opium. There are 3,799 palms of various descriptions. The Gopalganj figures will be reviewed when more complete.

The chief points of interest to be drawn from the crop statement are the great predominance of the rice crop in each thana, the large areas under rice in Siwan and Darauli, the astonishingly small area under wheat and the correspondingly large area under sugar-cane in Darauli as compared to Gopalganj and Mirganj, the large area under barley in Mirganj, the very small area under *marua* and the correspondingly large area under “*kodo*” in Mirganj and Gopalganj, and the large areas under maize in Basantpur and Siwan. Figures for other food crops are large in all thanas except Basantpur. Sugarcane is specially abundant in Darauli and practically non-existent in Basantpur. For indigo the figures are exactly reversed. Opium is grown almost equally in all the thanas. From the figures the following further deductions can be drawn. “*Kodo*” is an important “*bhadoi*” crop in the Gopalganj subdivision, but not in the Siwan subdivision, and that the better class of lands which in Darauli are used for the cultivation of sugarcane are used in Basantpur for the cultivation of indigo.

Mr. Gauntlett has drawn up an interesting note on the manufacture of sugar in Arakhpur, a village in Darauli thana.

Mr. Gauntlett points out that from a comparison of the area and crop statistics of Mirganj thana it would appear that a great deal of the rice grown there is *bhadoi* rice. Until the figures are finally checked it is impossible to vouch for their entire accuracy, and they should be considered in the light of this reservation.

15. *Statistics of transfers.*—Detailed statistics of the transfers of occupancy rights noted in each attestation camp during the season 1896-97 have been compiled. In the total area attested there were 146,407 holdings and 15,780 transfers. Out of an approximate area of 234,975 acres in the cultivating possession of raiyats, 4 per cent. has been transferred; 0·03 only by sale and 3·97 by mortgage. Of the total area transferred, 82·7 per cent. relates to parts of holdings and only 17·3 per cent. to whole holdings. Of the 15,780 transfers, 86·9 per cent. were to raiyats and only 7·5 per cent. to money-lenders. The total price paid for the area,

transferred, was Rs. 7,47,527, an average of Rs. 78-3 per acre. The highest rate per acre for sales was Rs. 561, for mortgage Rs. 635; the lowest rate per acre for sales was Rs. 31-6-4 and for mortgage Rs. 5-6-8 per acre.

It is noticeable that the average rate per acre for lands transferred by mortgage is Rs. 78-5-3, while the average rate per acre for lands transferred by sale is Rs. 63-9-10. The difference in favour of mortgage is probably due in the main to the fact that a purchaser has to pay a heavy sum to the landlord as *salami* before he is recognised as a tenant. It is quite in accordance with the topsy-turviness of Indian economics that in spite of land being so much sought after this sum should come out of the seller's, not out of the buyer's pocket.

Mr. Gauntlett remarks:—

“Looking at the figures for each camp separately, it is noticeable that transfers are most frequent in Camp VI, which consisted almost entirely of villages owned by the Hatwa Raj, whose raiyats enjoy perfect security of tenure, and least frequent in Camps I and IV in which the maliks are more oppressive than in other areas. I omit Camp II as the figures for that camp are not complete.”

The figures in Camp III are chiefly remarkable for the minuteness of the transactions, 3,464 transfers only affecting an area of 1,678-12 acres, *i.e.*, an average of .48 acres each transfer.

The transfers to money-lenders are chiefly to be found in Camps VI and I, in which are situated the large bazaars of Mirganj, Mairwa, Guthini and Darauli.

Figures for transfer of proprietary rights have been compiled for 61 villages. In these there were 843 khewat entries, and of these 139, or 16-5 per cent., were transferred. Out of a total area of 34,195 acres, 8,875 acres, or 25-9 per cent., were transferred. Of the 139 transfers, 119, or 85-4 per cent., were to landlords and 14, or 10 per cent., to money-lenders. The price paid was Rs. 3,08,981-14, an average of Rs. 487-1 per acre. The land revenue payable upon the area transferred was Rs. 8,874-9. The highest rate per acre was Rs. 1,111, the lowest Re. 1-12. An explanation of this extraordinarily low rate has not been furnished, but there is no reason to doubt its accuracy. An explanation of a low rate in Camp I (Rs. 6 per acre) is that the rights sold were already heavily mortgaged, and the seller was absolutely helpless. Another explanation of a low rate (Rs. 12-13-8 in Camp VI) is that the rights were purchased at auction sale at nominal rates by an influential local malik who was probably able to make his own terms at the sale.

16. *Miscellaneous*—(1) *Famine work*.—The Attestation Assistant Settlement Officers submitted, week by week, a note showing for each village in which they had worked the approximate area under and outturn of “bhadoi” and “aghani” crops, the amount of “rabi” irrigated and irrigable, the prospect of the “rabi,” and a note whether and, if so, when scarcity might be apprehended. These weekly reports were, I believe, found to be of considerable use.

The settlement office drew out list of villages in which rice-growing was predominant for the use of the Collector, to whom too two officers were temporarily lent to tour round the distressed tracts.

The settlement *parchas* were freely consulted by the Collector and his subdivisional officers when distributing loans.

(2) *Crop-cutting*.—In accordance with the instructions contained in the Director of Land Records' circular letter No. 48A., dated 13th December 1894, forwarded with Collector's letter No. 1160G., dated 31st July 1897, cuttings were made by each Assistant Settlement Officer of each of the principal crops grown in the district, and the produce carefully dried and weighed. As a few isolated statistics of this nature are of little value, I propose to carry on these experiments for the next three years and then to incorporate the results in a single report.

(3) *Training of young civilians*.—No junior civilians received training in survey and settlement during the year.

17. *General remarks*.—Now that the Hatwa Raj has passed under the Court of Wards, the absence of “give and take” in its dealings with the raiyats to which I referred in last year's report has largely disappeared, and the management has continued to take that careful and intelligent interest in the operations which, because it ensures accuracy, is extremely welcome to this Department. Mr. Buskin, since his appointment as Manager, and Babu Bipin Bihari Bose have shown themselves during the year ready to co-operate and assist us in every way.

Mr. Hodding of Barhoga Factory has also given us much help, and the exceeding care and exactness with which he had prepared for our work should serve as a model for all. I must also acknowledge the assistance Mr. Macnaghten, Secretary, Indigo Planters' Association, has afforded us in this district too. The preliminary record writing was done much better than in previous years, and for this the credit is largely due to Mr. Smart, the Assistant Superintendent of Survey, who exercises a very close supervision over his staff, but by the exercise of more tact he could do his work equally well and with less friction.

18. *Character of Officers*.—Maulvi Ghulam Ghaus, both while in an attestation camp and in charge of the head-quarters office, has done the most excellent work. He is a most loyal, intelligent and trustworthy officer.

Maulvi Ashfaq Hussein is another most admirable officer. He throws extraordinary zeal and energy into his work, and he has a capacity, which is at times brilliant, for getting to the facts in the most difficult investigations. Babu Hem Chandra Chatterjee is a good, steady, hardworking officer, and delights in conundrums. Maulvi Afzular Rahman works hard and loyally. He is at present inexperienced and not very bright. Coming to the officers who reverted last spring, Babu Siva Sankar Singh grievously disappointed me. He

had done good work in Muzaffarpur the previous year, and as Land Acquisition Deputy Collector of Champaran since March last he has shown most successfully how land acquisition can be worked entirely on the basis of our records. Babu Suresh Chandra Chakravarti is still young but intelligent and very keen. He will quickly improve.

Mr. Rowland Nagendro Lal Chandra is inclined to be disobedient and at no time a good officer. Mahomed Yusuf Ali will do well. Babu Bhawani Prasad is smart and will in time I think make a good officer. At present he is rather flighty.

Babu Barmeshwar Prasad is deaf and dull, but honest and well meaning.

Babu Prabodh Chandra Chatterjee was not in good health and shirked. He will be employed in Darbhanga this cold weather on attestation, and I shall watch him closely.

It remains for me to acknowledge the good work Mr. Gauntlett as Assistant Settlement Officer in charge has continued to do. He has lost nothing of his activity and fiery zeal. The staff employed under him was large and to a great extent inexperienced, but by unremitting supervision he was very successful in keeping things straight.

STATEMENT II.
Staff of officers employed.

NAME.	Work engaged on—	Period of employment.	Number of days spent on tour.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
C. J. Stevenson-Moore, Esq., C.S.	Settlement officer ...	.....	61	
M. F. Gauntlett, Esq., C.S.	Assistant Settlement officer, incharge.	Throughout the year	206	Of 206 days spent on tour 156 were spent in connection with settlement work.
Maulvi Ghulam Ghaus ...	Case office work and attestation.	Ditto	117	
„ Ashfaq Hussain ...	Attestation and case work.	From 23rd October to end of the year ...	323	From 14th June to 24th June (on ten days' casual leave).
Babu Hem Chandra Chatterjee.	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto ...	321	On 22 days' casual leave. The five days' leave for Christmas is included.
Maulvi Afzular Rahman	Khanapuri inspection and investigation of boundary disputes; attestation and case-work.	From 30th October to ditto ...	297	
Babu Prabodh Chandra Chatterjee.	Khanapuri inspection and investigation of boundary disputes; attestation and office work.	From 22nd October 1896 to 27th April 1897.	85	Ten days' leave on medical certificate.
Babu Suresh Chandra Chakravarti.	Attestation work ...	From 23rd October 1896 to 19th February 1897.	117	
Mr. R. N. L. Chandra ...	Ditto ...	From 23rd October 1896 to 14th February 1897.	114	
Babu Barmeshwar Prasad	Ditto ...	From 23rd October 1896 to 12th February 1897.	121	
„ Bhawani Prasad ...	Ditto ...	From 23rd October 1896 to 19th February 1897.	120	
„ Akhauri Barhamdeo Narain Singh.	Ditto ...	From 23rd October 1896 to 24th January 1897.	92	
Maulvi Mahomed Yusuf Ali	Ditto ...	From 24th January 1897 to 5th February 1897.	22	
Babu Siva Sankar Singh	Ditto ...	From 23rd October 1896 to 10th February 1897.	106	
„ Atul Chandra Koer	Case work ...	From 1st October 1896 to 20th November 1896.	35	

STATEMENT III.

Settlement Officer's annual return of khanapuri work ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER EMPLOYED.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH KHANAPURI WORK WAS COMPLETED—				Number of villages of which khamapuri is going on, but is incomplete.	Number of villages inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of amins inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of plots of which the khamra entries were tested during the year.	Number of disputed entries settled.	REMARKS.
				Up to end of the previous year.		During the year.							
				Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
M. F. Gauntlett, Esq., C.S.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	13	321	113	
Babu Prabodh Chandra Chatterjee.	A	145	101	...	...	145	101	...	96	96	1,013	283	
Maulvi Afzular Bahman.	B	173	102	...	...	173	102	...	155	155	3,664	3,070	
		318	203	...	...	318	203	...	264	264	4,993	3,463	
Diara land of thana Gopalganj.													
		12	8'60	...	...	12	8'60	...	...	...	...	...	
GRAND TOTAL	...	330	211'60	...	...	330	211'60	...	264	264	4,993	3,463	

STATEMENT IV.

Settlement Officer's annual return of boundary disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act for the year ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF—			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE MONTH UNDER REPORT.				
	To the end of the previous month.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending from preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—		
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Babu Prabodh Chandra Chatterjee. Maulvi Afzular Rahman ...	...	130	130	...	54 76	54 76	...	34	34	22	2	10
Total ...	...	130	130	...	130	130	...	34	34	22	2	10

STATEMENT V.

Settlement Officer's annual return of attestation work, including final publication of records for year ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	Number of villages for which records have been received from the Survey Department.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.				NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT PUBLISHED.		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED.	
					Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Previous year ...	...	1,208	487.4	...	1,208	487.4	130,445	782,688	...	...	...	...	1,200	8	68	936
Babu Hem Chandra Chatterjee	I	233	95.12	233	...	...	...	...	233	95.12	34,230 2,198	166,291	...	175	...	...
„ Suresh Chandra Chakravarti.	II	92	52.41	92	...	...	...	...	92	52.41	14,996 1,382	93,938	...	58	...	...
Mr. R. N. L. Chandra ...	III	160	87.35	160	...	...	...	...	158	83.07	31,990 1,982	146,954	...	79	...	...
Maulvi Ashfaq Hussein																
„ Afzular Rahman	IV	86	45.41	86	...	...	...	...	85	45.07	18,454 1,239	90,919	...	68	...	...
„ Ashfaq Hussein																
Babu Barmeshwar Prasad	V	70	41.66	70	...	...	...	...	70	41.66	14,474 1,223	85,946	...	54	...	...
„ Bhawani Prasad	VI	130	78.08	130	...	...	...	...	130	78.08	20,636 2,030	161,588	...	88	...	...
„ Prabodh Chandra Chatterjee.																
Maulvi Ghulam Ghaus...	VII	88	39.17	88	...	...	...	...	88	39.17	13,450 767	87,165	...	48	...	...
„ Ashfaq Hussein																
Babu Akhauri Barhamdeo	VIII	78	42.53	78	...	...	...	...	78	42.51	13,685 1,085	87,212	...	45	...	...
Narain Singh.																
Maulvi Mahomed Yusuf Ali	VIII	78	42.53	78	...	...	...	...	78	42.51	13,685 1,085	87,212	...	45	...	...
Maulvi Mahomed Yusuf Ali																
Babu Siva Sankar Singh	VIII	78	42.53	78	...	...	...	...	78	42.51	13,685 1,085	87,212	...	45	...	...
Total ...	...	937	431.73	937	...	...	...	...	934	477.09	161,915 11,904	920,013	...	615	...	...

STATEMENT VI.

Settlement Manual Form No. 15(1).

New area.—Settlement Officer's annual return of cases under section 104 of the Survey Act for settlement of fair rent for the year ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of Circle.	Area of circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF CASES INSTITUTED—			NUMBER OF CASES DISPOSED—			NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED.			Former rental of tenants in co- lumn 11.		New rental settled for tenants in column 11.		NUMBER OF DECISIONS APPEALED AGAINST TO SPECIAL JUDGE.			NUMBER OF APPEALS DECIDED.			NUMBER OF DECISIONS OF REVENUE OFFICER AS IN COLUMN 20.			
			To end of previous year, including case pending on 30th September	During the year.	Total.	To the end of pre- vious year.	During the year.	Total.	To the end of pre- vious year.	During the year.	Total.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	To the end of pre- vious year.	During the year.	Total.	To the end of pre- vious year.	During the year.	Total.	Reversed.	Modified.	Upheld.	Total.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
Maulvi Afzular Bah- man					996	996	...	1,173	102	...	1,173	1,173	14,206	15,832											
Maulvi Ashfaq Hussein					996	996	...	1,160	337	...	1,160	1,160	6,521	6,532											
Babu Hem Chandra Chatterjee.					996	996	...	4,080	286	...	4,080	4,080	59,701	62,967											
Total					996	996	...	6,413	725	...	6,413	6,413	80,428	85,021											

STATEMENT VI(a).

New area.—Statement showing the ground for the enhancement made under section 104 for the year ending 30th September 1897.

TOTAL RENT ATTESTED.	Total enhance- ment under sec- tion 30 (prevail- ing rate).	Percentage on column 1.	Total enhance- ment under sec- tion 52.	Percentage on column 1.	Total decrease under section 52 (1)(b) decreased area.	Percentage on column 1.	Net enhancement made.	Percentage on column 1.	Percentage on column 1.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
80,428	Rs. 106	13	Rs. 6,130	7.62	Rs. 1,643	2.04	Rs. 4,593	6.71	

Settlement Manual Form No. 15(1).

STATEMENT VI (b).

Old area.—Settlement Officer's annual return of cases under section 104 of the Survey Act for settlement of fair rents for year ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of Circle.	Area of circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF CASES INSTITUTED.			NUMBER OF CASES DISPOSED OF—			NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED.			Former rental of tenants in column 11.			New rental settled for tenants in column 11.			NUMBER OF DECISIONS APPEALED AGAINST TO SPECIAL JUDGE.						NUMBER OF APPEALS DECIDED.			NUMBER OF DECISIONS OF REVENUE OFFICER AS IN COLUMN 20.			REMARKS.
			To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year, including case pending on 30th September of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22				24					
Area attested 1894-95		..	3,344	28	3,372	3,272	100	3,372	41,938	302	42,240	Rs. 2,592	Rs. 2,979		176	68	244	..	57	57	8	2	3							
M. F. Gauntlett, Esq., C.S.		..	..	375	375	..	90	90	..	113	113	2,200	2,348	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..						
Maulvi Ghulam Ghaus		..	..	..	..	..	263	263	..	325	325	6,059	6,073	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..						
Babu Atul Chandra Kerr		..	..	..	..	..	6	5	..	15	15	36	41	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..						
Total		..	..	375	375	..	358	358	..	453	453	8,195	8,462	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..						

STATEMENT VI(c).

Old area.—Statement showing the ground for the enhancement made under section 104 for the year ending 30th September 1897.

TOTAL RENT ATTACHED.	Total enhance- ment under sec- tion 30 (prevail- ing rate).	on Percentage column 1.	Total enhance- ment under sec- tion 55.	on Percentage column 1.	Total decrease under section 52 (1)(b) (decreased area).	on Percentage column 1.	Net enhancement made.	on Percentage column 1.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10,787	...	...	Rs. 722	6.69	Rs. 68	.63	Rs. 654	6.06

STATEMENTS VII AND VIII.

Old area.—Settlement Officer's annual return of objections under section 105 and disputes under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act for the year ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Nature of case.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF—			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.				
		Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted of prece- ding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—		
											Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Previous year	(1) Objections heard and con- sidered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act.	9,891	...	9,891	7,143	...	7,143	...	...	...	...	...	...
M. F. Gauntlett, Esq., C.S. ...		...	353	353	...	63	63	...	...	...	...	...	...
Maulvi Ghulam Ghaus ...		...	...	...	...	1,753	1,753	...	...	...	...	...	...
Babu Atul Chandra Ker ...		...	...	...	...	1,285	1,285	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...		9,891	353	10,244	7,143	3,101	10,244	...	...	...	...	...	...
Previous year	(2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	128	...	128	22	...	22	...	...	...	...	...	...
M. F. Gauntlett, Esq., C.S. ...		...	411	411	...	48	48	...	...	...	...	...	...
Maulvi Ghulam Ghaus ...		...	...	...	...	207	207	} 261	29	2	2	...	...
Babu Atul Chandra Ker ...		...	...	...	...	1	1						
Total ...		128	411	539	22	256	278	261	...	...	...	...	...

STATEMENT VII(a).

New area.—Settlement Officer's annual return of objections under section 105 and disputes under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

NAME OF OFFICERS.	Nature of case.	NUMBER INSTITUTED—			NUMBER DISPOSED OF—			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF MONTH UNDER REPORT.				
		Up to the end of the previous year, including cases pending on 30th September of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To the end of previous year.	During the year	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending on 30th September of preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—		
											Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Maulvi Ghulam Ghaus ... Babu Hem Chandra Chatterjee Maulvi Ashfaq Hussein " Afzular Rahman	(1) Objections heard and considered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act	.....	3,915	3,915	...	{ 149 411 1,034 1,557	{ 149 411 1,034 1,557	564	.....	...	...	...	...
	Total ...	.....	3,915	3,915	...	3,351	3,351	564	.....	...	...	...	...
M. F. Gauntlett, Esq., C.S.	Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	.....	92	92	...	...	...	92	.....	...	...	...	...

STATEMENT IX.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Expenditure to end of the pre- vious year (against each sub-head.)	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4
1. Pay and special allowance of—	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Settlement Officer ...	19,454 8 0	5,497 6 8	
Assistant Settlement Officers ...	49,243 13 11	29,276 14 9	
2. Fixed establishment ...	3,386 1 1	3,339 3 5	
3. Temporary establishment ...	18,912 0 9	24,636 0 5	
4. Contract and job work ...	5,998 6 1	8,776 6 11	
5. Travelling allowance—			
Of officers ...	11,423 14 7	8,462 15 10	
Of establishment ...	108 5 0	71 14 0	
6. Supplies and services—			
Forms ...	2,547 0 2	191 7 6	
Tents ...	1,413 14 0	1,437 4 4	
Petty construction ...	10,965 4 8	1,600 0 0	
" repairs ...	.....	197 15 2	
7. Contingencies—			
Hot-weather charges ...			
Office rent ...			
Service telegram ...	3,635 1 3	4,647 7 10	
" postage charges ...			
&c., &c., &c. ...			
Total ...	1,27,093 5 6	88,135 0 10	
Add on account of the salary of the Director and the Settlement Branch of his office during the year 1893-94 only.	1,123 13 11	.....	
Total ...	1,28,217 3 5	.....	

X. STATEMENT

[illegible]

STATEMENT XI.

Detail of area.

THANAS.	Number of villages.	CROPPED AREA.					CULTURABLE AREA OTHER THAN CURRENT FALLOW.					AREA NOT AVAILABLE FOR CULTIVATION.					
		Bhadol.	Aghani.	Rabi.	Total.	Dofali.	Net-cropped area.	Current fallow.	Old fallow.	Mango groves.	Culturable jungle.	Other kinds.	Total.	House sites.	Water.	Other kinds.	Total.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Mirganj	1,064	102,728-078	56,201-40	140,180-594	308,119-072	83,251-935	224,867-137	1,639-511	17,375-839	11,357-04	970-969	232-845	29,936-723	2,811-102	5,397-87	7,834-062	16,048-034
Siwan	686	66,678-46	74,535-55	82,775-39	223,939-40	52,003-05	171,036-35	1,932-80	10,966-32	7,154-46	259-92	1,166-46	19,547-16	3,415-60	4,560-22	9,075-29	17,050-11
Rasulpur	401	52,210-982	47,841-529	60,080-242	160,132-753	35,479-49	124,653-263	1,566-365	12,034-457	73,275-68	165-752	1,528-338	21,056-115	2,679-351	2,172-939	5,208-843	10,061-153
Darauli	480	30,823-99	53,947-06	61,139-81	135,910-86	19,487-15	116,423-71	3,886-77	9,276-29	6,062-53	423-29	1,533-81	16,915-92	2,009-53	11,390-17	9,430-76	22,335-46
Gopalganj	242	34,545-217	23,604-359	41,267-507	99,497-123	31,533-368	67,643-755	851-873	6,973-426	3,144-932	735-611	279-645	11,133-634	788-604	2,450-163	2,443-076	5,081-743
Total	2,773	286,880-727	356,269-938	384,442-543	927,599-206	222,974-393	704,624-215	9,076-319	56,626-332	34,646-54	2,565-582	4,761-068	98,589-552	11,704-087	23,970-382	33,995-081	71,672-50
THANAS.		IRRIGATED AREA AND HOW IRRIGATED.					DETAILS OF IRRIGATED AREAS AS REGARDS CROPS.					NUMBER OF WELLS.		REMARKS.			
		Total un-cultivated, columns 5, 13 and 17.	Total area, columns 7 and 8.	Irrigated area.	Irrigated from wells.	Irrigated from Government canals.	Irrigated from private canals.	Irrigated from tank and dhars.	Rice.	Wheat.	Other cereals and pulses.	Other food crops.	Non-food crops.		Masonry.	Earthen.	
18		19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	
Mirganj	47,619-268	272,486-405	54,169-577	34,235-309	118-759	2,654-115	14,340-213	9,818-131	1,140-712	5,898-96	84,868-912	3,420-82	8,870-173	3,568	404	9,969 4 0	
Siwan	88,530-07	209,568-42	21,566-67	15,851-78	29-78	232-41	4,182-70	1,360-0	1,371-88	819-45	10,859-51	1,018-25	7,587-57	2,762	210	582,546 17 15	
Rasulpur	32,682-633	157,335-896	12,474-967	10,065-15	189-077	474-177	904-69	841-843	216-76	949-721	6,007-927	718-482	4,231-977	3,043	698	211,512 10 17	
Darauli	42,589-15	169,362-56	38,538-05	23,788-84	4-80	563-0	9,600-89	2,600-52	1,622-82	391-62	26,032-28	1,509-96	8,981-43	2,194	350	183,893 2 7	
Gopalganj	17,667-25	85,311-005	7,001-617	5,570-578	34-98	196-91	808-55	390-599	913-74	478-614	3,059-503	323-59	3,043-206	1,089	120	23,634 9 1	
Total	179,338-971	883,962-866	133,840-781	91,494-657	377-396	4,120-612	29,836-973	8,011-143	4,443-546	8,508-395	6,991-352	33,009-956	33,009-956	12,655	1,782	754,846 4 0	

STATEMENT XII.

Crop Statement.

THANA.	Number of villages.	CEREALS AND PULSE.										OILSEEDS.					SUGAR.		FIBRES.				
		Rice.	Wheat.	Barley.	Jowar (millet).	Bajra (millet).	Munda.	Maize.	Gram.	Kodo.	Maghar.	Other food grains, including pulses.	Linseed.	Til or linelly.	Mustard.	Others.	Condiments and spices.	Sugar cane.	Others.	Cotton.	Jute.	Sisal.	Others.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Mirganj	1,064	70,951 675	18,17 779	49,638 667	290 81	1,140 919	6,556 199	14,877 748	4,356 985	25,000 207	759 92	71,879 325	10,906 783	76 376	175 99	1,202 593	1,288 589	8,462 719	3 799	842 355	2 353	279 824	2 195
Siwan	586	64,898 73	6,766 34	19,914 13	511 96	159 48	10,235 07	26,396 39	4,645 98	6,829 30	5,476 61	45,006 20	5,789 93	21 62	852 18	261 52	336 38	8,316 72	65 54	3,391 04	10 78	96 51	91 20
Basantpur	401	35,747 786	7,273 104	20,410 164	319 475	261 408	6,402 185	21,697 439	2,766 987	4,886 45	7,985 39	13,400 081	3,728 069	128 916	1,894 24	489 832	344 264	797 337	94 585	1,668 275	124 379	763 285	380 623
Darauli	480	43,507 82	10,964 15	19,806 47	54 71	68 19	6,257 57	4,444 31	382 90	3,451 41	4,032 77	32,750 65	1,517 02	40 28	175 05	34 94	117 51	11,673 70	281 03	862 34	3 33	2 49	5 26
Gopalganj	242	21,230 466	5,177 14	10,751 673	37 30	128 081	782 841	8,037 673	5,966 58	6,538 188	6,094 81	15,177 528	6,872 678	47 424	155 02	338 278	862 59	633 926	4 391	4,632 549	6 382	151 38	5 26
	2,773	236,336 477	45,358 624	120,464 004	1,204 235	1,768 078	29,684 476	75,475 555	18,119 432	45,705 665	18,659 10	177,913 784	28,814 419	314 616	2,755 51	2,322 263	2,939 333	29,784 452	449 355	11,396 559	147 259	1,285 489	479 278

THANA.	DYES.		DRUGS AND NARCOTICS.										MISCELLANEOUS CROP.				Total.	Area cropped more than once.	Net area cropped (31.32).	REMARKS.	
	Indigo.	Others.	Opium.	Coffee.	Tea.	Tobacco.	Chincona.	Indian hemp.	Others.	Fodder crops.	Kharaul munj.	Garden produce and orchards other than mango groves.	Food.			Non-food.					
													Potatoes.	Yams.	Kachheana.						
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45
Mirganj	2,407-76	2-68	6-402	9,166-872	...	...	63-71	...	0-56	12-998	128-033	4,832-383	493-351	293-27	2,789-048	227-83	935-214	308,119-072	83,251-735	924,867-137	686
Siwan	5,051-54	140-42	198-96	5,984-37	...	...	47-68	...	0-15	7-26	26-31	84-23	532-86	59-47	114-62	2,283-22	223,939-40	52,903-06	171,036-35	10,286	
Basantpur	10,394-508	197-036	194-623	4,329-360	...	...	13-688	0-45	...	7-2	1,256-136	353-146	353-146	310-021	3,371-50	30-524	108-915	160,132-753	129,653-268	24,138	
Darauli	885-79	7-94	1,917-87	1,917-87	...	...	45-75	...	...	0-12	11-50	30-35	217-52	47-24	237-49	1,428-92	135,910-86	147-15	116,423-71	1,354	
Gopalganj	4,033-565	4-54	1-14	4,331-683	...	...	7-898	...	0-62	0-12	17-97	1,416-969	200-023	127-54	1,683-74	78-367	121-82	92,497-123	37,853-368	67,643-755	195
	2,788-163	363-196	405-007	26,730-155	...	...	120-727	0-45	1-23	20-808	183-813	7,620-088	1,806-90	880-141	8,096-698	481-201	4,206-089	927,599-208	222,974-993	704,624-216	36,781
																					12,533
																					9,634
																					6,504

STATEMENT XIII.
Transfer of proprietary rights in the area attested in 1896-97 of Saran.

CAMP NUMBER.	Number of villages selected.	Total area of these villages.	Total number of khewat entries.	Number of transfer.	Area transferred.	Percentage of column		Landlord.	Lawyer class.	Money-lenders.	Rajpats.	Share of land revenue transferred if given.	Price paid.	Average rate per acre of land transferred.	Highest rate.	Lowest rate.
						6 to 3.	5 to 4.									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Camp I	9	7,633-74	323	53	4,290-30	56	16-40	52	...	1	...	Rs. A. P. 1,150 7 1	Rs. A. P. 1,08,483 0 0	Rs. A. P. 25 4 6	Rs. A. P. 433 5 4	Rs. A. P. 6 0 0
" II	8	705-95	10	3	34-62	4-88	30	1	...	2	...	Rs. A. P. 11 5 6	Rs. A. P. 790 0 0	Rs. A. P. 19 0 0	Rs. A. P. 231 5 8	Rs. A. P. 1 12 0
" III	21	12,539-37	205	22	1,393-97	11-99	10-73	17	...	4	...	Rs. A. P. 4,676 15 0	Rs. A. P. 32,364 0 0	Rs. A. P. 23 3 5	Rs. A. P. 149 14 4	Rs. A. P. 11 0 0
" IV	8	2,597-52	91	8	768-13	29-57	8-70	5	...	2	...	Rs. A. P. 756 11 5	Rs. A. P. 84,850 0 0	Rs. A. P. 45 5 9	Rs. A. P. 190 12 11	Rs. A. P. 13 0 0
" V	13	5,676-18	138	26	925-88	16-31	18-34	20	...	5	...	Rs. A. P. 681 7 7	Rs. A. P. 73,673 14 0	Rs. A. P. 78 0 0	Rs. A. P. 1,111 0 0	Rs. A. P. 44 0 0
" VI	4	688-43	14	9	394-51	5-59	64-93	6	...	...	...	Rs. A. P. 231 14 8	Rs. A. P. 26,936 0 0	Rs. A. P. 68 3 4	Rs. A. P. 1,157 14 3	Rs. A. P. 12 13 8
" VII	3	1,473-54	18	4	15-65	1-06	22-2	4	...	...	...	Rs. A. P. 12 10 4	Rs. A. P. 3,133 0 0	Rs. A. P. 200 0 0	Rs. A. P. 213 0 0	Rs. A. P. 151 0 0
" VIII	7	2,890-64	44	14	1,052-34	36-1	31	14	...	...	...	Rs. A. P. 1,353 1 4	Rs. A. P. 23,753 0 0	Rs. A. P. 28 0 0	Rs. A. P. 412 0 0	Rs. A. P. 11 0 0
	61	34,195-37	843	139	8,875-30	25-95	16-43	119	1	14	6	Rs. A. P. 8,374 8 11	Rs. A. P. 3,08,981 14 0	Rs. A. P. 487 1 0	Rs. A. P. 1,111 0 0	Rs. A. P. 1 12 0

STATEMENT XVII.

Progress of office work for the year ending 30th September 1897.

WORK DONE.	AREA ATTESTED IN 1893-94, 1894-95—VILLAGES 1,208, PLOTS 782,688.						AREA ATTESTED IN 1895-97, 934 VILLAGES, 939,013 PLOTS.						REMARKS.
	Previously.		Present year.		Total.		Previously.		Present year.		Total.		
1	2		3		4		5		6		7		8
	Villages.	Plots.	Villages.	Plots.	Villages.	Plots.	Villages.	Plots.	Villages.	Plots.	Villages.	Plots.	
Draft publication	1,208	721,328	8	11,460	1,208	782,688	...	...	615	5,13,385	615	5,13,385	
Peshkar's check	1,017	583,716	191	186,159	1,208	779,875	...	...	224	1,50,339	224	1,50,339	
Sarishtadar's check	970	561,963	238	217,892	1,208	779,875	...	...	141	77,604	141	77,604	
Copying	163	79,058	1,046	700,823	1,208	779,875	...	...	79	34,275	79	34,275	
Comparison final check	...	...	1,208	779,875	1,208	779,875	...	...	71	32,122	71	32,122	
Final publication	68	33,156	898	663,815	1,066	697,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Computation	...	...	802	42,464	802	42,464	...	...	...	...	...	...	

C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX XII(*iv*).

DARBHANGA ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER 1897.

1. *Notification*.—Under the scheme prepared by the Superintendent of Settlement Surveys, Bengal, in consultation with the Settlement Department, it had been intended to commence survey operations in this district from the north-west corner, the thanas of Khajauli and Benipatti being taken in hand.

Towards the end of October 1896, signs of scarcity began to show themselves in the tract intended for survey, and it was thought advisable to recast the entire scheme and start work in an area where there was little prospect of famine. Accordingly under notification No. 5201, of 6th December 1896, page 1274 of the *Calcutta Gazette*, thanas Samastipur and Dalsing Sarai were notified for cadastral survey. These two thanas are in the south-west of the district. Thus the entire scheme of operations had to be inverted, and thanas Benipatti and Khajauli, with which we intended originally to commence, will fall within the area to be last surveyed. By notification No. 496T.R., dated 7th June 1897, published in furtherance of the orders contained in Government letter No. 914T.R., dated 12th October 1896, 25 villages lying in the Dalsing Sarai diara were excluded from survey and settlement under the Bengal Tenancy Act. They cover an area of 40·19 square miles, and have been topographically surveyed.

2. *Programme*.—Whilst Mr. C. S. Kraal and three assistants were conducting the survey of the tract notified and supervising khanapuri in an area of 544 square miles. The Settlement Department had before them as their chief task the settlement of boundary disputes and of interior disputes, coupled with the inspection of the amins' khanapuri work.

It had been also originally intended to attest the 13 villages of taluka Lahiri in the north of the district, which had been khanapuried under Mr. Hughes' supervision during the year 1895-96. The suit between the rival claimants Rangu Singh and the Madhubani Babus had not, however, been decided during the cold weather, and these villages owing to the revision of programmes are situated very far from our base of operations, and the attestation was therefore temporarily postponed. It may be noted, however, that, as a result of the preparation of the preliminary settlement record, the authorities have found it possible to remove the punitive police, who had been quartered in these villages for several years.

3. *Staff*.—Mr. R. B. Hughes was placed in charge of the work in addition to his duties as Assistant Settlement Officer in charge, Muzaffarpur, and the officers shown in the annexed statement were placed in charge of the two circles into which the area under khanapuri was divided. Maulvi Mahammad Yusuf was employed for a few days only, being transferred almost immediately after joining to the Saran district, and being replaced by Babu Akhauri Brahamdeo Narain. Mr. Engelbregt and he spent 152 and 126 days on tour respectively.

4. *General*.—A conference of officers was held in Motihari in December, at which the Director of Land Records and the Superintendent of Settlement-Surveys, Bengal, were present, to consider what steps were necessary to give effect to the orders contained in Government letter No. 914T.R., dated 12th October 1896, directing the exclusion of diara tracts from survey and settlement under the Bengal Tenancy Act. Rules were framed for the treatment of Government and temporarily-settled estates situated within the diara limits and for laying down a line where the diara might be said to end and the permanent land begin. These rules were submitted for the approval of the higher authorities. Steps have been taken in consultation with the Collector of Darbhanga to identify, survey cadastrally, and khanapuri those villages in which Government or temporary estates are situated, and the records after all boundary and interior disputes are decided will be handed over to him. Six hundred and thirty-eight villages, covering an area of 544·99 square miles, have been surveyed and khanapuried prior to settlement under the Bengal Tenancy Act. Twenty-three villages with an area of 40·19 square miles have been excluded, but of these two villages have been cadastrally surveyed and khanapuried for the convenience of the Collector.

5. *Boundary disputes*.—During the year 326 boundary disputes were instituted. Out of these 301 were decided. The majority of the remaining 25 are disputes which have been instituted in the area taken up for topographical survey in the Dalsingserai diara. Many of them cover a very large area claimed by several villages, and having been instituted quite at the end of the field season it was found impossible to dispose of them. They are full of difficulties, and it is proposed to depute Maulvi Ashfaq Hosein, an experienced officer, to settle them during the ensuing cold weather. An attempt was also made, with the permission of the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, to employ the Sub-Assistant Superintendents of Survey in the decision of boundary disputes, subject to the confirmation of the Assistant Settlement Officer in charge. The attempt, however, ended in failure, the reports submitted being in the majority of cases too cursory to be reliable. At the end of the season too, the period when their services could have been most useful, their time had to be fully taken up in doing independent partial. On the other hand, an improved procedure was laid down for the guidance of the Assistant Settlement Officer dealing with boundary disputes. Order sheets were introduced, and all proceedings systematically entered, and in important cases a short but clear and concise memorandum of all evidence given was

recorded. As a result the institution of appeals has been small, being only 24, or less than 8 per cent. of the total decisions. Out of the 24 decided, 20 have been upheld, 1 modified, and 3 reversed, an extremely satisfactory result. The Assistant Settlement Officers have noted that these boundary disputes are frequently put in by the jeth raiyats without instructions from their principals, and many of them are compromised when local enquiries are held. As in former years in Muzaffarpur also, it was found that many of the disputes related to small pieces of waste land.

6. *Inspection of khanapuri and decision of interior disputes.*—Owing to the intricate pattidari system and the dense population of this part of Darbhanga district, fields worked out very small. 1,085,010 plots were found in 544.99 square miles. The average size of a plot, therefore, was .32 of an acre.

The two Assistant Settlement Officers were able to check .21 per cent (less than a quarter per cent.) of the plots khanapuried. They devoted their energies (when not engaged in the decision of boundary disputes) to the decision of interior disputes. Disputes with regard to 57,602 plots were put in. Thus one plot in every 20 was disputed. In Sitamarhi last year one plot in every 26 was disputed. The increase is probably due to the prevalence of petty estates in the thanas surveyed this year. Yet although every effort was made to dispose of this enormous number of disputes, and though the matter received the special attention of the Assistant Settlement Officer in charge, in the result only 15,904, or 27 per cent., of those instituted were disposed of at this preliminary stage. The result is that we are left with 41,698 disputes to be decided at the attestation stage. Mr. Hughes writes with reference to this matter thus:—"I think that the year's work has brought the fact into relief more prominently than ever that our supervision at the preliminary stage of the record-writing is utterly inadequate, and I wish to lay great stress on the matter. Under our present system with Assistant Settlement Officers working in areas 250 square miles or more in extent, and containing 300 villages or more, I submit that it is an impossibility, however hard the Assistant Settlement Officer may work, for him to cope with the duties which are given him. This year we have had nearly one boundary dispute to every two villages khanapuried. Assuming, therefore, that an Assistant Settlement Officer is given an area of 250 square miles containing 300 villages, he will have 150 boundary disputes to decide, khanapuri inspection of 5 lakhs of plots, and, taking disputes at 5 per cent. of the plots khanapuried, 25,000 disputes to decide. To do this work he has often to travel long distances, and everything has to be done actually on the ground. When survey work is begun at the beginning of November, khanapuri is not in full swing till the second or third week in December. All this work then has to be done in the short space of five months, December to April, 150 days. It has been found this year that on khanapuri inspection alone an energetic Assistant Settlement Officer can visit only some three villages per diem. To travel round his circle alone will take him two-thirds of his allotted time. But he has to decide boundary disputes, and though in most cases these are small, and if combined with khanapuri inspection can be done at the rate of two per diem, many, on the other hand, comprise large areas and take two days or more for enquiry. Taking khanapuri inspection and boundary disputes to occupy 75 days, there remain 75 days for decision of interior disputes. I have looked into Mr. Engelbregt's diaries, an officer who worked with particular energy last season, and find that he decided on some days as many as 200 disputes or more, but these cases are more or less exceptional, and an average of 125 disputes per diem is as much as can be expected. The Assistant Settlement Officer will, therefore, be able to decide 9,375 out of the 25,000 disputes which I have assumed will have been instituted in his area, leaving the very unsatisfactory legacy of 15,000 disputes to be decided by the attestation officer, and admittedly the attestation officer has far greater difficulty in coming to a decision in an attestation camp when the parties come ready primed than is the case when the dispute is decided in the very field itself by the khanapuri officer. I am convinced that this is the origin of the extremely large number of objections under section 105 which we have had in Muzaffarpur. And what does the entry of disputes mean so far as our record is concerned? It means that for every undecided possession-dispute (and the majority concern possession) there is not only an omission in khasra and khatians, but four boundaries have been omitted of adjoining fields. It is impossible to explain a raiyat's total area to him, moreover, at bujharat, if some of his fields have, owing to disputes, not been entered in his khatian. Where disputes as to pattis or estates exist, we cannot get correct areas in our khewats. And what does the failure of prompt decision of disputes mean to the raiyat? It means anguish of mind to him and a ready means of extorting money to the amin and the petty zamindar. How often in going through the khanapuri area does one hear the cry quoted in last year's report in Muzaffarpur:—"Khetwá men lágalwá táuazá Pácha Kaise mile?" Ask a raiyat why his field has been put down on the dispute list, he will reply (and I quote this as my personal experience) that either the amin has demanded money from him, or that the landlord or the landlord's servants have quarrelled with him and have put his fields in dispute. No payment has to be made, no punishment awaits the man who enters a false dispute. What obstacle, then, is there to the indiscriminate entry of them? I submit that the question is a serious one, and that we should attempt to find a solution. Experience has shown that the system of having these disputes decided by the Inspectors has failed. The Sub-Assistant Superintendents of Survey have their hands too full to be able to devote their attention to the decision of disputes. There remains only one course then, and that is, to depute more officers for supervision of khanapuri. It may be urged that the deputation of

more officers for the supervision of khanapuri will entail a heavier cost. I submit, however, that these officers do not draw as a rule a high rate of pay, and yet are quite competent to decide these interior disputes, which are distinguished by their number rather than by the difficulty they present in decision. Moreover, when decided at khanapuri all the entries requiring alterations are made by the amin at the contract pay which he is given for a complete record. What has been the result of our failure to decide disputes this year? We have had to reduce our rate of progress at attestation, and we have to keep eight Assistant Settlement Officers in camp till the middle of April (paying them too at higher rates than we should pay young khanapuri Assistant Settlement Officers). We have to provide them with large establishments, and every order passed by the Assistant Settlement Officer involves the writing of a long reference to the order passed. The record becomes a mass of corrections in red ink. The retention of the Assistant Settlement Officers in camp till April leads not only to great personal discomfort, but to inefficient supervision and an inclination on the part of the officers themselves to scamp work. It means that recess work will not be in full swing till the middle of May, and that we shall have cases under section 105 pending over the cold weather. I proposed in consequence that we should have an officer doing case work all the following cold weather, but I understand that the item was omitted from the budget. All this means additional expense, which might have been avoided by better supervision and the deputation of more officers to supervise the initial record-writing. I am convinced that no khanapuri circle should exceed 150 square miles in a district such as Darbhanga. I would advocate an even smaller area. I do not consider that the argument that extra cost would be incurred is sound." Mr. Hughes has stated his case with great force, and although I consider that an Assistant Settlement Officer can dispose of more than an average of two boundary disputes a day, unless his time is much occupied on plot testing, still results have proved conclusively that in our present scale of establishment about three-fourths of the interior disputes remain pending. The correction of the record at attestation in accordance with the orders passed in these disputes causes, of course, a great deal of trouble and some expense, but that the delay in deciding these cases is responsible for the large number of objections in Muzaffarpur under section 105 I should much hesitate to say. It does result in some mental anguish to the raiyats, but I very much doubt if a prompter decision of these disputes would affect so completely as Mr. Hughes anticipates the petty tyrannies of the amins and small proprietors. The raiyats, no doubt, do assign the reasons for their lands being entered in dispute which are stated by Mr. Hughes, but they must, if asked, give some reasons, and these are the safest, and do not commit them. A large number of disputes are in fact, however, groundless, and to have these decided promptly would be a very great advantage, and I think it very necessary to strengthen the agency for doing this. I do not, however, agree with Mr. Hughes in thinking that if the bulk of disputes were decided at khanapuri, the attestation Assistant Settlement Officers would be able to increase the outturn of work to any very appreciable extent, as all disputes of any difficulty and importance will be raised again at attestation, and disputes regarding rent are not raised until then. Some economy in the staff of muharrirs would be possible, but this would be trifling as against the additional cost of khanapuri, which would amount to over Rs. 3,500 for about 500 square miles. However, the matter is of very considerable importance, and I have discussed it and suggested certain remedies in the general covering letter with which this report has been forwarded.

7. *Popularity of operations.*—On the whole the feeling towards the operations, especially among the planters and raiyats, may be said to be extremely friendly. Misunderstandings of course occurred, but on the whole everything passed off with the utmost tranquillity and good feeling. Instances of petty maliks taking advantage of the dispute list to bully their raiyats were, I regret to say, common. I am indebted to Mr. Macnaghten, Secretary to the Bihar Indigo Planters' Association, for much valuable assistance in explaining our procedure to managers of factories.

8. *Darbhangā Raj.*—The area under khanapuri contained only two or three villages in which the Raj has any interest, and in them the interest is coparcenary, but the Maharaja in the course of the year agreed, in place of a revision of Mr. Finucane's survey, to an entire resurvey of all his estates in the district, and Government gave effect to his wishes in the orders contained in letter No. 592L.R., dated 13th February 1897. Raja Rameshwar Singh also withdrew his objections to a new survey. The whole district will, therefore, without exception be surveyed professionally on the 16 miles to the inch scale, an arrangement we must hail with the liveliest satisfaction, since, however accurate Mr. Finucane's survey may have been, the difference of scale used in his maps would have introduced many complications, had Government been content with their revision, and our records would always have been open to the objection that they were based on maps prepared, not by Government, but on behalf of a private proprietor. Then, too, as a revision in place of a new survey would give a saving of only Rs. 12 per square mile, the increase of cost recoverable from the Darbhanga estates will be trifling.

9. *Land Acquisition.*—The Survey Department proved of considerable use to the Collector in acquiring lands for railways which were brought under construction as famine relief works. The entire Jainagar-Sakri line was surveyed by amins of the Survey Department. I have discussed the extent to which cadastral maps can be utilised for land acquisition in my covering letter.

10. *Miscellaneous.*—I spent nine days in the district visiting the khanapuri area three times. The Assistant Settlement Officer in charge was on tour for 32 days. Special attention

was paid to the preparation of khewats, work the importance of which has not always been fully realised. The particular attention of the khanapuri officers was drawn to the necessity for deciding as many interior disputes as possible, plot testing being left to the survey inspecting officers. Special arrangements were made with the sanction of the Superintendent of Settlement-Survey and the Director of Land Records for the employment of Assistant Superintendents of surveys at the end of the season on boundary and interior disputes, but Lieutenant Symonds wrote saying that they would be fully occupied on checking survey, and could not be spared, and the assistance rendered therefore was inconsiderable. Accommodation for the Darbhanga settlement establishment has been under consideration, and it will be necessary to erect an office at Laheria Serai, the head-quarter station. If funds are not at present available, the Muzaffarpur office will have to be utilised for the time being. The advantages to the Settlement Department of having an officer of Captain Crichton's ability and experience in direct charge of the survey are very great. On the work of Mr. Kraal, his Assistant in charge of the Darbhanga camp, I cannot report very favourably. Many mistakes that have since come to light in the area surveyed by him in Sitamarhi were due to bad khanapuri, and I am inclined to think that he does not exercise a sufficiently active supervision and go in search of errors. He acquiesces, but should also actively co-operate.

11. *Character of officers.*—Mr. Hughes was in direct charge of the settlement in addition to that of Muzaffarpur district throughout the year, except for 2 months and 25 days during recess, when he was on privilege leave, and he has brought to bear on it with his accustomed energy the knowledge of detail and experience he has already gained in Muzaffarpur. Mr. Engelbregt, though wanting in tact and moderation, displayed energy and activity, and he, of the khanapuri officers, did most work. Babu Akhauri Barhamdeo Narain Singh did his best to retrieve the misconduct of which he had been guilty in Saran by doing quiet, hard work.

STATEMENT II.

Staff of Officers.

NAME OF OFFICERS.	Work on which employed.	Period of employment.	Days spent on tour.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
C. J. Stevenson-Moore, Esq., c. s.	.....	.....	9	
R. B. Hughes, Esq., c. s.	General supervision	.....	32	
J. W. Engelbregt, Esq.	Khanapuri inspection and disposal of interior and boundary disputes.	16th December 1896 to 17th May 1897.	152	Transferred to Manbhumi.
Maulavi Mahammad Yusuf Ali.	Ditto ditto	13th January 1897 to 23rd January 1897.	10	Transferred to Saran Settlement Office.
Babu Akhauri Barhamdeo Narain Singh.	Ditto ditto	26th January 1897 to 5th May 1897.	126	Transferred to Hazaribagh general duty.

STATEMENT III.

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Khanapuri Work, ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER EMPLOYED.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH KHANAPURI WORK WAS COMPLETED.				Number of villages of which khanapuri is going on but is incomplete.	Number of villages inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of amins inspected by Revenue Officer during the year.	Number of plots of which the khasra entries were tested during the year.	REMARKS.
				Up to end of the previous year.		During the year.						
				Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
J. W. Engelbregt, Esq.	Northern Circle (Samastipur thana).	406	296'36	...	...	406	296'36	.....	250	250	1,001	8,136 disputed entries settled. 7,711 ditto by Assistant Settlement Officer in charge.
Babu Akhauri Barhamdeo Narain Singh.	Southern Circle (Dalsingserai thana).	232	248'13	...	...	232	248'13	.....	132	132	1,327	
	Total ...	638	544'99	...	...	638	544'99	.....	382	382	2,328	
				Diara land of Dalsing serai thana.								
	GRAND TOTAL	23	40'18	...	...	23	40'18	.....	.....	...	.....	
		661	585'18	...	...	661	585'18	.....	382	382	2,328	15,904 disputed entries decided.

STATEMENT IV.

Return of Boundary Disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF.			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.				
	From the beginning of the year (1st October), including cases pending on 30th September, to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending from preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—		
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
J. W. Engelbrecht, Esq.		160	160	.....	160	160	.....	10	10	9	...	1
Babu Akhauri		128	128	.....	128	128	.....	12	12	10	1	1
Barhamdeo Narain Singh.		38	38	.....	12	12	} 25	2	2	1	...	1
Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur.					1	1						
R. B. Hughes, Esq., C. S., Assistant Settlement Officer in charge.												
Total ...		326	326	.....	301	301	25	24	24	20	1	3

C. J. STEVENSON-MOORE,

Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX XII(v).

GAYA.—ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER 1897.

1. *Notification*.—By a notification No. 2253L.R., dated 27th July 1897, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of 28th July 1897, one village belonging to Government was omitted from the scope of our operations.

2. *Programme*.—The programme set out for the settlement staff during the past year was :—

- (a) The attestation of 89 villages of the Belkhara mahal covering an area of 97·28 square miles, and nine villages of the Government estates covering an area of 12·84 square miles, and four villages belonging to the Tikari Ward's estate covering an area of 4·07 square miles.
- (b) The settlement of fair rents under sections 101 (2) (a) and 104 (2) in seven villages with 427 holdings held by Government and the settlement of fair rents on application in the villages held by private parties.
- (c) The disposal of objections under section 105 and suits under section 106 after draft publication.
- (d) The commutation of produce rents into cash rents under section 40 in three villages with 641 holdings owned by Government.
- (e) Completion of the record-of-rights.
- (f) Compilation of statistics of areas, crops and tenancies of the villages attested.
- (g) The final publication of the records of the villages attested.
- (h) Enquires into the economic condition of the poorer classes of Gaya.

3. *Staff of officers and distribution of work*.—In order to carry out the programme a staff of two officers was placed at my disposal. One of them, Syed Ali Mazhar, was, after about a month's work in this district, transferred to Champaran. In statement II attached to this report are shown the periods for which these officers were employed and the work they were engaged on, and the number of days they were on tour. Babu Annada Charan Gupta was in subordinate charge of the work throughout the year. I spent 19 days in Gaya, visiting it five times.

4. *Attestation*.—Babu Annada Charan Gupta arranged to attest 12 isolated and outlying villages, while Maulvi Syed Ali Mazhar commenced work in the main area of the Belkhara mahal. On the transfer of Maulvi Ali Mazhar to Champaran, Babu Annada Charan Gupta having disposed of the scattered villages was able to continue the attestation in an area more or less compact. His progress was somewhat interrupted by the necessity for him to pay periodical visits to the office at head-quarters, which was about 50 miles from the area in which he was working, and during his absence was left in charge of the head clerk. He was able, however, to complete the attestation in April. The villages attested lie within the zone between the Sone and the Punpun rivers. They are mainly irrigated from the Eastern Sone Canal, and the lands are the most valuable in the district. The tenants were comparatively intelligent, especially the descendants of the invalid sepoys who were settled in villages lying along the old Patna-Delhi Road by the East Indian Company. They own lands settled by Government at a quit rent, which are locally called *Inglis jagir*. They are very keen about their rights, which are considerable and readily combine to protect their interests when threatened.

The preliminary explanation of the records or *bujharat* was much less difficult than in Tikari villages owing to the co-operation afforded by Mr. G. L. Solano, Manager of mahal Belkhara, on behalf of his nephews and other cosharer landlords. Mr. Solano appointed a special officer with an establishment of muharrirs to look after his interests. His patwaris and gumasthas were always present with their village papers, which were found to be kept in a systematic and businesslike way. Mr. Solano himself was present in several times in the attestation camp, and after he had obtained an insight into the system, was always ready to assist in making our records as complete and correct as possible. Being a zamindar of great intelligence and experience, he can appreciate their value.

The practice of collecting rents by appraisement (*danabandi*) or actual division (*batai*) of the crop is the most common in the district. But in the villages irrigated by the canal, Mr. Solano has commuted all the *bhachli* rents into cash, so that the tenants are now exempted at least from the diverse forms of petty exaction to which they are subjected at the time of appraisement. They get printed receipt in the form prescribed by the Tenancy Act, and hence there were few disputes about rent. The classification of land paying money rents into "shikum," "chakat," &c., terms explained in last year's Annual Report, does not prevail in the Belkhara villages. Lands were, therefore, recorded merely either as cash or produce paying a classification that simplified our work to a very great extent.

At the time of *khanapuri*, there was some difficulty in recording the holdings the occupancy right of which was purchased by Mr. Solano, and to this reference was made in last year's report. Mr. G. L. Solano at the time of attestation produced the Full Bench decision of the

High Court in *Jowadul Huq vs. Ram Das Saha*, and claimed to be recorded as raiyat. The matter was referred to the Advocate-General for opinion, and in the meantime, in accordance with Mr. Lyon's instructions (letter No. , dated), the land were kept in the khatians of the cultivating raiyats with a note of the purchase by the permanent tenure-holder in the remarks column. The Advocate-General has now ruled that the Full Bench decision must be regarded as final, that Mr. Solano must be recorded as a raiyat, and the cultivators as under-raiyats. These instructions were communicated by the Director of Land Records in his letter No. 2097, dated 22nd August 1897, and effect has been given to them. I have referred in my covering letter to the principle of law enunciated by the High Court, and have endeavoured to show how hardly it will operate on the cultivators of the soil.

5. *Assessment and settlement of fair rents.*—In villages of the Belkhara mahal Mr. Solano and the Tikari Court of Wards filed applications for the enhancement of rents paid by the Inglisdars or the descendants of invalid sepoys. In all cases, except one, the enhancement was claimed under section 52. The rents were enhanced from Rs. 50 to Rs. 100, *i.e.*, by 100 per cent., which at first sight appears to be very excessive. The rents were enhanced on compromise, and although there may be reason to doubt the accuracy of the areas recorded in the landlord's rent-roll, the question of a difference in standard of measurement does not arise, as the standard has always been a uniform one in this district, while even after the enhancement the rate per bigha works out to 15 annas 8 pies only, a ridiculously low rate. The rent in the highest case of enhancement has under section 36, Bengal Tenancy Act, been made progressive, and in my opinion in no case has hardship been caused. In the Government estates, where land revenue is being settled under section 101(2)(d) and under section 104(2), rents were enhanced in 15 villages on the principles stated in paragraph 9 of last year's report. The total demand from lands paying money rent was Rs. 7,628, and this has been enhanced to Rs. 8,340, giving an increase of 9·33 per cent., 7·9 per cent. of which was under section 30. It will be seen from statement VI that rents have been fixed for 3,280 Government tenants. The existing rents of 451 were retained as fair, and 26 only have been fixed *ex parte*. As many as 3,254 tenants accepted the assessment, a very satisfactory result. We met with no genuine opposition in enhancing rent in Government villages. In three villages the tenants at first refused to come to terms, but after a little further consideration agreed to the rents as fair and equitable.

6. *Commutation under section 40.*—The work under this head was confined to 28 Government villages with 641 holdings. The principles followed were discussed in the Collector's letter referred to in paragraph 9 of last year's report. Under the Collector's instructions, six villages were excluded during the year from commutation and enhancement, in addition to those noted in paragraph 10 of that report. The total cash rent fixed in Government villages by commutation amounts to Rs. 10,651.

7. *Draft publication.*—The publication of the record in draft was done immediately after attestation, except in cases where applications for settlement of fair rents were filed. In Government villages draft publication was postponed till proceedings under rule 26 of the Government rules and section 40 of the Tenancy Act were completed. The draft publication of all villages that have come under settlement has been completed.

8. *Objections under section 105.*—The work under this head was not so light as in previous years. Six hundred and thirty objections were preferred and all disposed of. They refer mainly to the records of villages of the Belkhara mahal. Those relating to the purchase of occupancy rights by Mr. Solana have been mentioned above.

9. *Suits under section 106.*—Eighteen suits were instituted under section 106. Out of these, 17 have been disposed of and one pending from the previous year. There have been four appeals up to date, none of which have been decided.

Final publication.—The records of all the villages attested in 1894-95 and 1895-96 have been finally published. Out of 102 villages attested during the year under report, the records of 69 villages have been finally published. The 33 pending will be disposed of at an early date.

10. *Distribution of records among the tenants.*—Under the orders contained in Government letter No. 575L R., dated 11th February 1897, the rent-free holders are the only tenants of the 551 villages of the Tikari Ward's estate, who will be called on to contribute to the cost of the settlement operations. With the sanction of the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, communicated in letter No. 1471S., dated 5th June 1897, copies of the khatians intended for the rent-paying raiyats are being made over to the Manager of the estate for distribution by his circle officer. The rent-free holders' copies will be distributed by Babu Annada Charan Gupta himself at the time when he realises the cost. In Government villages the tenants' records have been made over to the Collector for distribution by the Deputy Collector in charge of khas mahals. The landlords' copies of the records of Tikari and Government have already been made over to the Manager and the Collector respectively. In Government villages rent-rolls have been written up in accordance with the records we have prepared, but I regret to say the Manager of the Tikari Ward's estate has not displayed the same promptitude. Where lands are held largely on produce rents as they are in the Tikari Ward's estates, the great value of our record consists in this that they enable the Manager to identify on the ground the fields that are produce paying and the fields that are not. The facilities for corruption that cultivation on produce rents affords in a large estate to village officials are notorious, and rumours have come to my ears that patwaris have been causing raiyats to interchange cash paying and produce paying lands in order to nullify the use of the settlement records. The settlement records were made over to

Mr. Ogilvy in October last. In Spring I wrote inquiring how he proposed to utilise our records for purposes of appraisal. After some delay he replied and favoured me with a form of register he proposed to introduce, which appears to be suitable, but it is to be regretted that he was not able to introduce it before the *bhadoi* harvest. He assures me, however, that he will introduce it before the winter rice is cut. The Tikari rent-roll has not yet been written up from our records. On my inquiring the reason, the Manager stated that he was waiting for the copies of the photozincographed maps, and that as there were "fluctuating elements" it was difficult for him to base his rent-roll on our records. The Manager already has copies of the traces, and even they, much less the photozincographed maps, can only be required where there are discrepancies, and these I hope are few. The "fluctuating elements" referred to are special rents paid on lands sown with sugarcane, &c., a small and unimportant matter. I have explained this to Mr. Ogilvy and he has agreed to have the correct survey areas written up at once and to make a systematic comparison of all entries, but I must point out that this should have been begun nearly a year ago, and would have been much easier of accomplishment then than now.

11. *Expenditure.*—As pointed out in my previous annual reports, it is difficult to give a correct financial return for the survey year. In column 6 of statement IX. I have shown the actual expenditure during the last 12 months, and in column 2 the budget estimate for the financial year 1896-97 has been put down, so they cannot be profitably compared.

12. *Recovery of costs.*—In my letter No. 21, dated 20th April 1897, I recommended that the cost from rent-free holders in the Tikari Ward's estates should be realised at the rate of annas 8 an acre, and asked for a reconsideration of the orders contained in Government letter No. 575L.R., dated 11th February 1897. Final orders have not yet been received. Meanwhile the computation registers have been written up, and the amounts realisable will be filled in directly the rates are approved and recovery proceeded with. In my letter No. 129B., dated 1st June 1897, I submitted an estimate of the cost of operations in the Belkhara mahal and proposals for apportionment. In letter No. 164T.S., dated 20th May 1897, the Director of Land Records and Agriculture sanctioned the forms of registers proposed, and directly Government sanction is obtained the computation will be made and costs recovered. In the Government estates a settlement of revenue has been made. The tenants, therefore, are not liable to contribute to the cost.

13. *Statistics of area and holdings.*—Babu Annada Charan Gupta has furnished* the following comparative statement of the size of villages, holdings and plots in the three estates under survey compiled from the statements annexed :—

NAME OF ESTATE.	Number of villages.	Area in square miles.	Total number of plots.	Average size of a village in square miles.	Average number of plots in a village.	Average size of a plot.		Total number of tenancies or khatian.	Average number of plots in a tenancy.	Average size of a tenancy.		Total area of uncultivated waste land.	Percentage of the waste land to the total area.	or Kaisar-i-Hind Crown land.	Percentage of Kaisar-i-Hind to the total area.
						A.	D.			A.	D.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1. Tikari Ward's estates.	551	384.63	476,895	.69	865	...	.51	35,320	13.5	7	.5	72,336.65	29	1,188.77	.4
2. Government estates.	118	102.00	69,332	.86	588	...	.94	9,214	7.5	7	.08	37,768.89	57	184.08	.2
3. Belkhara mahal.	89	97.28	113,799	1.09	1,278	...	.55	9,292	12.2	6	.7	8,520.70	15	874.11	1.5

It will appear from the above that the average size of a tenancy is almost the same in the three estates, whilst the average size of a plot in the Government estates is nearly double that in the Tikari Ward's estates or the Belkhara mahal. The percentage of waste land to the total area in the Belkhara mahal is 15, whilst in the Tikari Ward's estates it is 29, and in the Government estates 57. The high percentage in the Government estates is due to the fact that about half the villages lie in the south of the district, overgrown with jungle and unsuitable for cultivation. The Sone Canals are responsible for the small amount of waste land in the Belkhara mahal.

From statement X the following figures are taken of the average rates of rent paid by occupancy raiyats :—

				Rs.	A.	P.	
Tikari estates ...	...	...	...	4	4	4	per acre.
Government estates	...	...	...	3	5	9	do.
Belkhara	...	...	...	4	9	1	do.

In the case of non-occupancy raiyats the rates are—

				Rs.	A.	P.	
Tikari estates	..	...	...	2	11	11	per acre.
Government estates		...	...	1	9	9	do.
Belkhara		...	...	5	9	9	do.

The soil of the Government villages cannot compare with the others in productiveness, hence the low rates. The rates of the Belkhara mahal are highest; but, considering its fertility, not,

I think, excessive, while the rent rates of the Tikari estate rule so high because it is only the best lands that are held on cash rents. That non-occupancy raiyats in Tikari and Government villages pay at a lower rate of rent than occupancy raiyats is curious, and points to the fact that the spare land is of inferior quality for which there is not much demand.

The following statement compares the status percentages of rent-paying tenants in the three estates :—

NAME OF ESTATE.	Total number of raiyats.	Percentage of raiyats at fixed rate.	Percentage of occupancy raiyats.	Percentage of non-occupancy raiyats.
1	2	3	4	5
1. Tikari Ward's estates ...	31,257	5.8	89.9	4.3
2. Government estates ...	6,137	0.4	86.3	13.3
3. Belkhara ...	8,003	0.26	91.5	8.2

The large number of raiyats at fixed rates in the Tikari Ward's estates is most noticeable and due to causes explained in previous reports. The percentage of non-occupancy raiyats in Government estates is 13.3, a high figure, due probably to the closer scrutiny to which status in Government estates is subjected.

14. *Statistics of cultivation and crops.*—From the details of cultivation in statements XI and XII the following comparative percentages are obtained :—

NAME OF THE ESTATE.	Area in square miles.	Percentage of the net cropped area to the total area.	Percentage of the area cropped area to the net cropped area.	Percentage of the area under <i>bhados</i> to the net cropped area.	Percentage of the area under <i>aghani</i> to the cropped area.	Percentage of the area under <i>rabi</i> to the cropped area.	Percentage of the area under groves to the cropped area.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. Tikari Ward's estate ...	384.63	65.5	18.8	15.2	50.8	49.6	3.4	
2. Government estates ...	102.00	41.7	19.4	11.5	51.4	55.6		
3. Belkhara mahal ...	97.28	76.2	44.1	10.4	64.8	68.4	3	

Owing to canal and other irrigation the Belkhara mahal easily heads the list as the most fertile estate. As much as 44 per cent. is twice cropped, and 64.8 per cent. of the area grows winter crops and 68 per cent. *rabi* crops. The area under autumn crops is in all three estates, as indeed in the whole district, inconsiderable: 81 per cent. of the area of the Belkhara mahal is irrigated, 58 per cent. of Government estates, and 32 per cent. of Tikari Ward's estate.

The following statement shows the percentages of area irrigated from different sources. It is satisfactory to notice that the irrigation of Government estates by means of *pynes* and *ahars* is not neglected. On the other hand the irrigation of the Tikari Ward's estate appears in every respect to be in a backward condition :—

NAME OF THE ESTATE.	Percentage of the irrigated area.	Percentage of the area irrigated from	Percentage of the area irrigated from Government canals.	Percentage of the area irrigated from the <i>pynes</i> .	Percentage of the area irrigated from the <i>ahars</i> and tanks.	Percentage of the area irrigated from other sources.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1. Tikari Ward's estate ...	32.4	5.7	3.0	3.8	13.7	6.4	
2. Government estates ...	58.8	7.5	4	13.3	23.6	9.0	
3. Belkhara mahal ...	81.6	17.0	27.6	6.7	28.3	1.9	

All the statistics will be discussed at length in the final report. I will now merely draw attention to the fact, which a reference to the crop statement will verify, that of the net cropped area of the Tikari Ward's estate 2.80 per cent. only is under sugarcane and opium. The cultivation of opium is largely confined to the same land. The percentage of area under

sugarcane alone is a little over '3. It will be readily understood, therefore, that the argument that the "fluctuating elements" in the Tikari rent-roll prevent it being based on our records is not a very forcible one.

14. *Maintenance of the records.*—In the Government estates, the Collector will arrange to keep a register of mutations now that the records intended for the landlord and tenants have been made over to him. Similar steps should be adopted by the Manager of the Tikari Ward's estates, and I believe he has them in contemplation. Mr. Solano, Manager of the Belkhara Mahal, who can fully appreciate the value of reliable records, is making arrangements to keep those of the Belkhara mahal copied for him up to date.

15. *Transfer of occupancy right.*—In statement XIV, statistics of the transfer of occupancy holdings are given. They refer mostly to the villages of mahal Belkhara. The transfers are effected on unregistered documents, and in most cases without due knowledge of the landlord. Mr. Solano does not allow his tenants to transfer their holdings on registered documents. The transfers are so few that no conclusions can well be based on the statistics they furnish.

16. *Enquiries about the condition of the poorer classes of Gaya.*—With the sanction of the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, I have selected, in consultation with the Collector and Manager, Tikari Ward's estate, for detailed enquiries, two average villages in each of the four tracts into which the district was divided by Dr. Grierson. I drew up forms of statements indicating the lines these inquiries would follow, which were submitted to the Director and obtained his approval. Babu Annada Charan Gupta has displayed much intelligence in making the investigations which have been completed for three out of the four tracts. While it is obvious that Dr. Grierson's estimate for outturn of crops is much too low, every effort is being made to ascertain what that outturn actually is. Information obtained by local inquiry and from the compilation of statistics given in appraisal papers is being supplemented by crop cuttings. The results obtained will be fully discussed in the final report.

17. *General remarks.*—We are much indebted to Mr. Solano for the help rendered to us during attestation. Maulvi Syed Ali Mazhar did satisfactorily the work allotted to him during the short time he was employed in this district. Babu Annada Charan Gupta's programme for the year has entailed a great deal of travelling over long distances, but has not been a heavy one. He has completed it with care and without friction. The manner in which he is conducting the inquiries into the economic condition of the poorer classes is deserving of special mention.

18. *Conclusion.*—This is the last annual report that will be submitted for the operations in this district, which I expect to be finally closed by March next. Recovery of costs from the landlords and tenants of the Belkhara mahal and from the rent-free holders of the Tikari Ward's estate and the completion of the enquiries into the condition of the poorer classes, are the only matters of importance now pending. I hope to submit the final report in spring.

Statement II.

OFFICER.	Work engaged in.	Period of employment.	Days on tour.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5
C. J. Stevenson-Moore, Esq., c.s.	Settlement Officer ...	.....	19	
Babu Annada Charan Gupta.	Subordinate charge of the district on attestation up to April 1897.	Throughout the year	220	
Maulvi Syed Ali Mazhar.	Attestation ...	From 1st to 20th November 1896.	20	Transferred to Champaran.

Statement III.

Not received.

Statement IV.—Settlement Officer's annual return of boudry disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NUMBER INSTITUTED			NUMBER DISPOSED OF.			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
	From the beginning of the year (1st October), including cases pending on 30th September, to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the month.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending from preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Babu Annada Charan Gupta.	594	3	597	594	3	597	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....

Statement V.—Annual return of attestation work, including final publication of records.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of Circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.				NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT PUBLISHED.		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED.		REMARKS.
				Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Tikari Ward's estate, Government estate, Belkhara mahal.	551	384.63	547	380.56	34,815	471,026	4	4.07	505	5,869	...	...	...	...	One village (Ibrahimpur) has been incorporated with Sikandarpur Degpura. Hence the total number of villages now comes to 551 instead of 552.	
	118	102.00	109	89.16	8,589	62,618	9	12.84	615	6,714	...	...	...	...		
	89	97.28	...	...	...	...	89	97.28	9,292	113,799	...	...	...	...		
	Total ...	758	583.91	656	469.72	43,414	533,644	102	114.19	10,412	126,382	597	161	478		247

Statement VI.—Settlement Officer's annual return of cases under section 104 of the Tenancy Act for settlement of fair rents.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of Circle.	Area of circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH CASES HAVE BEEN INS-TITUTED.			NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH CASES HAVE BEEN DIS-POSED OF.			NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED.		
			To end of previous year, including cases pending on 30th Sep-tember of previous year.	During the year under report.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year under report.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year under report.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Babu Annada Charan Gupta.	Belkhara mahal ... Tikari Ward's estate ... Government estate ...	97'28 384'63 102'	 41 96	39 ... 7	39 41 103	... 41 88	38 ... 15	38 41 103	... 180 2,853	12 ... 427	12 180 3,280

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of Circle.	Former rental of tenants included in column 12.	New rental settled for tenants in column 12.	NUMBER OF DECISIONS APPEALED AGAINST TO SPECIAL JUDGE.			NUMBER OF APPEALS DECIDED.			NUMBER OF DECISIONS OF REVENUE OFFICER AS IN COLUMN 20—			REMARKS.
				To end of previous year, including cases pending on 31st September of previous year.	During the year under report.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year under report.	Total.	Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Babu Annada Charan Gupta.	Belkhara mahal ... Tikari Ward's estate ... Government estate ...	50 4,940 53,040	100 5,891 56,763	..... ..... .....	... 1 ...	... 1 ...	... ... ...	... 1 ...	1 1 ...	... 1 ...	... ... ...	... ... ...	34 cases have been withdrawn and struck off

Statement VI(b).—Annual Return of progress for commutation of Bhaoli rent in Government villages.

1			2			3			4			5			6
TOTAL NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN RECORDS PREPARED FOR COMMUTATION.			TOTAL NUMBER OF HOLDINGS.			TOTAL NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH COMMUTATION HAS BEEN DONE.			TOTAL NUMBER OF HOLDINGS IN WHICH COMMUTATION HAS BEEN DONE.			AMOUNT OF RENT FIXED BY COMMUTATION.			REMARKS.
To the end of previous year.	During the year under report.	Total.	To the end of previous year.	During the year under report.	Total.	To the end of previous year.	During the year under report.	Total.	To the end of previous year.	During the year under report.	Total.	To the end of previous year.	During the year under report.	Total.	
37	3	40	326	135	961	12	28	40	320	641	961	2,283	8,368	10,651	

Statements VII & VIII.—Settlement Officer's Annual Return of objections under Section 105 and Disputes under Section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

NAME OF REV- ENUE OFFICER.	Nature of Case.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF.			Number remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF THE MONTH UNDER REPORT.						REMARKS. (State grounds on which deci- sions have been appealed against and summarize orders of courts of appeal.)
		Up to the end of the pre- vious year including cases pending on 30th September of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending on 30th September of preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been —				
											Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
	(1) Objections heard and con- sidered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act.	445	630	1,075	445	630	1,075	...	...	...	...	...	...	The cases in column 7 were distributed as follows :— Tikari Ward's estate ... 4 Government estate ... 73 Belkhara mahal ... 553 630	
	(2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	47 (a)	18	65	46	18	64	1	4	...	...	...	...	Tikari Ward's estate ... 1 Government estate ... Belkhara mahal ... 17 18 (a) The figure 46 shown in column 3 of statement G for the last year was wrong.	

Statement IX.—Financial Statement.

	Budget estimate for financial year 1896-97.	Total expenditure during the survey year 1893-94.	Total expenditure during the survey year 1894-95.	Total expenditure during the survey year 1895-96.	Total expenditure during the survey year 1896-97.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>Salaries.</i>	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1. Settlement Officer ...	2,000	...	...	3,223	1,630	
2. Assistant Settlement Officer.	6,000	...	8,694	5,420	3,852	
<i>Establishment.</i>						
3. Of Settlement Officer, including clerks and servants.	1,236	...	1,159	1,667	1,369	
<i>Temporary Establishment.</i>						
4. Of Settlement Officer ...	4,500	...	5,579	3,819	2,224	
5. Contract establishment	6,000	...	748	4,828	4,323	
6. Travelling allowance, including establishment.	2,300	...	4,487	2,378	1,766	
<i>Supplies and Services.</i>						
7. Purchase of tents ...	20	...	1,924	...	...	
<i>Contingencies.</i>						
8. Office rent ...	900	...	825	900	900	
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>						
9. Unforeseen ...	2,044	...	2,538	2,622	1,644	
Total	...	25,000	5,033	33,104	24,852	17,758

Statement X.—Abstract of Khatian.

Number of villages.	NAME OF ESTATE.	PROPRIETOR'S PRIVATE LAND.										HELD BY PROPRIETOR BUT NOT PRIVATE LAND.										HELD BY TENURE HOLDERS (INCLUDING UNDER-TENURE HOLDERS) IN CULTIVATED POSSESSION.										RAYATS AT FIXED RATES AND RENTS.										SETTLED RAYATS.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																		
		Number of holdings.					Cultivated area.					Uncultivated area.					Total area.					Number of holdings.					Cultivated area.					Uncultivated area.					Total area.					Rate of rent per acre for whole holdings.					Number of holdings.					Cultivated area cash paying.					Uncultivated area cash paying.					Total area cash paying.					Area on produce rent.					Total cash rent.					Rate of rent per acre of holdings excluding produce rent area.					Rate of rent per acre of holdings excluding produce rent area.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																							
551	Tikari Ward's estate.	131	1449-54	23-34	472-88	62	251-6	26-66	277-62	377	2,485-33	274-9	2,759-42	1,815	4,419-86	238-99	4,658-86	7,937	12 10	1 12 9	1 11 7	28,104	29,485-67	2,288-3	31,773-70	91,866-53	1,35,738	7 8	4 9 8	4 4 4																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														</

Statement XII.—Crop Statement.

NUMBER OF VILLAGES.	GRAM AND PULSE.										OILSEED.					Condiments and spices.		SUGAR.		FIBRES.	
	Rice.	Wheat.	Barley.	Jowar (millett).	Madua.	Maize.	Gram.	Urid.	Bajra (millett).	Other food-crops including pulses.	Linsed.	Flu or lin.	Others.	15	16	17	18	19	20	Others.	
1																					
Tikari Ward's estate	Villages. A. D. 1,074 74	A. D. 22 29	A. D. 161 31	A. D. 1 45	A. D. 64 23	A. D. 54 40	A. D. 90 50	A. D. 1 33	A. D. 23 42	A. D. 511 83	A. D. 79 83	A. D. 0 9	A. D. 50 13	A. D. 14 14	A. D. 0 17	A. D. 133 46	A. D. 136 88	A. D. 135 73	A. D. 8 24	A. D. 8 24	
Ditto	... 547	... 110,494 62	... 12,750 69	... 7,907 9	... 2,760 20	... 8,637 80	... 10,566 22	... 1,269 71	... 2,169 71	... 40,783 51	... 7,274 39	... 120 72	... 153 78	... 153 78	... 804 23	... 133 46	... 136 88	... 135 73	... 8 24	... 8 24	
Total	... 551	111,569 36	12,753 61	8,063 40	2,761 67	8,702 3	10,656 72	1,961 02	23 43	41,295 33	7,854 22	120 81	1,015 86	153 78	504 40	133 46	136 88	135 73	8 24	8 24	
Government estate	... 9	1,270 24	26 08	155 52	41 55	106 58	294 42	...	...	927 61	82 1	80 56	54 46	18 84	46 76	17 85	8 24	8 24	8 24	8 24	
Ditto	... 109	9,627 20	1,891 10	1,342 33	517 80	995 7	1,839 18	...	41 72	8,238 28	1,714 85	132 51	420 45	62 30	697 28	26 48	8 24	8 24	8 24	8 24	
Total	... 118	10,897 44	1,917 78	1,497 85	559 38	1,011 65	2,133 60	...	41 72	9,165 89	1,746 86	213 07	474 91	81 14	744 03	44 33	82 82	16 48	16 48	16 48	
Belkhar mahal	... 89	27,453 89	1,326 87	1,950 46	109 60	1,699 98	8,307 88	321 51	26 40	14,921 1	923 90	0 59	716 2	93 22	1,092 77	1 21	14 48	2 51	2 51	2 51	

	DRUGS AND NARCOTICS.										MISCELLANEOUS.		Total.	Area cropped more than once.	(31-32) net area cropped.	REMARKS.				
	Indigo.	Others.	Opium.	Coffee.	Tea.	Tobacco.	Cinchona.	Indian hemp.	Others.	Food crops.	Garden produce and orchards other than mango groves.	Potatoes.					Yam.	Non-food.		
33																				
Tikari Ward's estate	Villages. A. D. 138 86	A. D. 4,030 47	A. D. 138 86	A. D. 4,030 47	A. D. 138 86	A. D. 4,030 47	A. D. 138 86	A. D. 4,030 47	A. D. 138 86	A. D. 4,030 47	A. D. 138 86	A. D. 4,030 47	A. D. 138 86	A. D. 4,030 47	A. D. 138 86	A. D. 4,030 47	A. D. 138 86	A. D. 4,030 47	A. D. 138 86	A. D. 4,030 47
Ditto	... 547	... 110,494 62	... 12,753 61	... 8,063 40	... 2,751 67	... 8,702 3	... 5,071 57	... 10,656 72	... 1,961 02	... 23 43	... 41,295 33	... 7,854 22	... 120 81	... 1,015 86	... 153 78	... 504 23	... ..	... 133 46	... 14 14	... 0 16
Total	... 551	2 72	4,159 33	...	...	275 52	...	...	...	...	4,941 35	459 07	9,645 39	2,251 61	163,434 25	30,626 52	162,808 43	...	...	...
Government estate	... 9	1 55	64 62	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 98	16 61	4 26	0 59	3,250 87	399 26	2,851 61	...	...	...
Ditto	... 109	...	370 0	...	...	0 16	...	...	...	...	126 10	16 61	4 26	4 39	29,161 24	4,813 92	24,347 32	...	...	...
Total	... 118	1 55	434 62	...	...	0 16	...	...	...	...	129 08	16 61	4 26	4 98	32,442 11	5,213 18	27,228 93	...	...	...
Belkhar mahal	... 89	3 75	2,155 78	...	...	0 34	...	...	...	...	131 20	38 36	34 65	22 18	62,437 54	19,133 76	43,323 78	...	...	...

APPENDIX XII (vi).

Annual Report, Narhan Ward's Estate, District Monghyr, for the year ending 30th September 1897.

Notifications.—The survey and settlement under the Bengal Tenancy Act of this estate was sanctioned by notification No. 814T.—R., dated 25th October 1895.

2. *Staff and Tours.*—Operations were confined to those villages in which the Ward has a share of 8 annas or more. Sixty villages, covering 48·19 square miles, were surveyed and khanapuri under the supervision of Babu Atul Chander Kerr, Assistant Settlement officer, in 1895-96. On the 30th of November of the year under report, this officer rejoined the department, and was deputed to attest these villages. He completed the work on the 28th of February 1897, and reverted to general duty, his services being required elsewhere in consequence of the famine. Mr. Hughes inspected his camp in December, shortly after it had opened; subsequently, I inspected twice, spending three days in the district. Babu Atul Chander Kerr was in tour throughout the period of his employment, and in addition to doing attestation had to re-enquire into several boundary disputes.

3. *Record-writing.*—No record-writing, except portions of two jheels, Kabur Tal and Nagri, which were under water in the previous year, was done during the year under report.

4. *Attestation.*—The 60 villages attested contain 11,097 khatians and 60,335 plots. Attestation proceeded smoothly, but the Circle officer deputed to the camp was handicapped by want of full information, the Manager taking practically no interest in our proceedings: 79 per cent. of the raiyats were found to be settled raiyats.

5. *Case-work.*—*Settlement of fair rents.*—In the course of his tour in January, the Director of Land Records and Agriculture considered that it might be advisable, if not to enhance rents at least, to settle rents throughout the estate. Correspondence took place with the Collector and Manager, and eventually it was decided that where the jamabandi area of a holding was larger than the survey area by more than 25 per cent., cases for settlement of fair rent should be instituted. The estate has since filed 31 cases against 540 raiyats in 29 villages. Two raiyats have instituted cases for reduction of rent on account of reduction of area. Babu Atul Chander Kerr returned early in September, and has since been engaged in hearing these cases. He has disposed of 10 cases against 50 raiyats up to date. These have all been compromised, an allowance of two cottahs per bigha being given by the estate. The other cases are still under trial. The enhancement allowed has been 9·1 per cent. on the former rental. In February a note was submitted by Babu Atul Chander Kerr on the length of the laggi. In two of the parganas in which lands of the estate lie, the laggi is unfortunately disputed.

6. *Draft publication.*—Twenty-eight villages have been draft published up to date. The draft publication of the remaining villages is pending the disposal of section 104 cases.

7. *Objections under section 105.*—Only three objections under section 105 have been filed up to date, of these two have been decided, and one is pending having been referred to arbitration.

8. *Cases under section 106.*—No. 106 cases have been yet filed, and no villages are ready for final publication.

9. *Expenditure.*—The settlement budget for 1896-97 was Rs. 6,000. Owing to the deputation of the Assistant Settlement officer late in the year, only Rs. 3,089-7-4 was spent out of this amount. For the current financial year a budget for Rs. 5,000 has been submitted and sanctioned. The total expenditure out of this amount up to date is Rs. 79-1-3. The question, whether the total cost of the settlement is to be defrayed by the estate, should now be considered, and I will shortly consult the Collector on the subject.

10. *General.*—I anticipate that the operations in this district will be closed by March next. Babu Atul Chander Kerr has done his work with care and intelligence.

STATEMENT III.

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Khanapuri Work for the year ending September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER EMPLOYED.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH KHANA-FURI WORK WAS COMPLETED.				Number of villages of which khanapuri is going on but is incomplete.	Number of villages inspected by Revenue Officer during the month.	Number of amins inspected by Revenue Officer during the month.	Number of plots of which the khasra entries were tested during the month.
				Up to end of the previous month.		During the month.					
				Number.	Area in square miles.	Number.	Area in square miles.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Babu Atul Chunder Kerr		60	48.19	60	48.19	...	...	...	...	...	...

NARHAN STATEMENT IV.

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Boundary Disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act, ending September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NUMBER INSTITUTED—			NUMBER DISPOSED OF—			Number remaining at the end of the month.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE MONTH UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
	To the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending from preceding year.	Decided.	Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Babu Atul Chunder Kerr ...	78	1	79	78	.....	78	1	4	1	1	.....	.....	

STATEMENT V.

Settlement Officer's yearly Return of Attestation Work, including final publication of Records.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	Number of villages for which records have been received from the Survey Department.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.				NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT PUBLISHED.		NUMBER OF VILLAGES OF WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED.		REMARKS.
					Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Babu Atul Chunder Kerr ...		60	48'19	60	...	.....	.....	.....	60	48'19	11,097	60,335	.....	28	.....	.....	

STATEMENT VI.

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of cases under section 104 of the Tenancy Act for settlement of fair rents.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Area of circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF CASES INSTITUTED.			NUMBER OF CASES DISPOSED OF.			NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED.			Former rental of tenants included in column 12.	New rental settled for tenants in column 12.	NUMBER OF DECISIONS APPEALED AGAINST TO SPECIAL JUDGE.			NUMBER OF APPEALS DECIDED.			NUMBER OF DECISIONS OF REVENUE OFFICER AS IN COLUMN 20—		
			To end of previous month, including on 30th September of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of previous year.	During the year.	Total.			To end of previous month, including on 30th September of previous year.	During the month.	Total.	To end of previous month.	During the month.	Total.	Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Babu Atul Chunder Kerr.	...	...	...	31	31	...	10	10	...	50	50	1,263	1,378	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

31 cases affect 540 tenants.

STATEMENT VI(a).

Percentage statement of cases under section 104.

NAME OF OFFICER.	Former rent.	Present rent.	SECTION 52.				SECTION 30.		Total increase.	Total percentage of increase.
			Increase under section 52.	Percentage of increase in column 5.	Decrease, section 52.	Percentage of decrease, column 6.	Increase, section 30.	Percentage of increase, column 8.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Babu Atul Chunder Kerr ...	1,263	1,378	115	9'1	...	...	...	...	115	9'1

STATEMENT VII.

Settlement Officer's Monthly Return of Objections under section 105 and Disputes under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NATURE OF CASE.	NUMBER INSTITUTED—			NUMBER DISPOSED OF—			Number remaining at the end of the month.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF THE MONTH UNDER REPORT.					
		Up to the end of the previous month, including cases pending on 30th September of previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending on 30th September of preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
											Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Babu Atul Chunder Kerr ...	(1) Objections heard and considered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act. (2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	.....	3 Nil	3 ...	... ...	2 ...	1 ...	1 ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	

STATEMENT IX.

Settlement Officer's Annual Statement from October 1896 to September 1897.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment (against each sub-head).	Expenditure to end of the previous month (against each sub-head).	Expenditure during the month (against each sub-head).	Balance remaining (against each sub-head).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	
1. Pay and special allowance of—			Rs. A. P.		
Settlement officer ...			747 0 7	.....	
Assistant Settlement officers ...			696 10 8	.....	
2. Fixed establishment ...			...		
3. Temporary establishment ...	...		815 15 4	.....	
4. Contract and job-work ...					
5. Travelling allowance—					
Of officers ...			518 12 9	.....	
Of establishment ...			20 5 0	.....	
6. Supplies and services—					
Forms ...	...		2 13 3	.....	
Tents ...			170 0 0	.....	
Petty construction ...					
„ repairs ...					
7. Contingencies—					
Hot-weather charges ...					
Office rent ...					
Service telegrams ...					
„ postage charges ...			100 0 0	.....	
&c. &c. &c. ...			96 15 0	.....	
Total ...			3,168 8 7	.....	

STATEMENT X.

Statement to be used in Monthly and Annual Reports showing the status and rent of Tenants as recorded in the Khatians from commencement of the year under report.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LANDS.					REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class.	Average area of cultivated lands per holding.	Rent.	Average rent per cultivated acre.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Proprietor's sir (nijjote)	4	.....	.....	...	.....	
2. Held by proprietors, but not true sir.	43	.....	.....	...	.....	
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders.	110	.....	.....	...	.....	
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rent.	3	.....	.....	...	.....	
5. Settled raiyats ...	8,350	.....	.....	...	.....	Raiyat's diara ... 323
6. Occupancy raiyats ...	21	.....	.....	...	.....	Gair Mazma ... 274
7. Non-occupancy raiyats	112	.....	...	...	.....	Kaisar Hind ... 26
8. Rent-free holders ...	328	.....	.....	...	.....	Under-raiyats 1,008
						Total ... 11,097

APPENDIX XIII.

No. 165, dated Comilla, the 19th October 1897.

From—J. G. CUMMING, Esq., Settlement Officer, Chakla Roshnabad Estate, Tippera and Noakhali,

To—The Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal, (through Collector of Tippera).

WITH reference to your circular No. 45S., dated the 1st September 1897, I have the honour to submit the following annual report on the progress of the settlement operations in the Chakla Roshnabad, Palpara and the Gangamandal Estates for the year ending 30th September 1897. The usual set of returns, as also the statement in the Form of Appendix I to your report for the year ending 30th September 1896, are hereto appended.

2. I held charge of these settlements till the 27th July last, when I was transferred to Midnapore as Magistrate-Collector. Babu Moti Lal Roy, Assistant Settlement officer, continued in charge till the end of the year, assisted by Babu Kailas Chandra Biswas, who was placed in subordinate charge.

3. All notifications and orders issued prior to the year under report in connection with the survey-settlements of the above three estates, were detailed in paragraphs 4 to 7 of the report for the survey year 1893-94.

There has been issued during the year of report, under the provision of section 101, sub-section 2(a) of the Bengal Tenancy Act, a notification No. 534L.R., dated 8th February 1897, published on page 220, Part I of the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 10th idem, extending the sphere of operations to some petty mahals lying outside the Chakla Roshnabad Estate in the Tippera district. These mahals, which are the property of His Highness the Raja of Hill Tippera, are enumerated below with the tauzi numbers which they bear in the Tippera Collectorate mentioned against each:—

1. Dharma Narayan taluk (pargana Meherkul, Chakbast Mahaddinagar, Chakla Roshnabad), tauzi No. $\frac{52}{144}$.
2. Mauza Chandsree wagairah No. 92, mahal lakhiraj bajapti (parganas Bagasair and Meherkul), tauzi No. $\frac{365}{365}$.
3. Mauza Mirpur wagairah No. 1, mahal bajapti (pargana Meherkul), tauzi No. $\frac{669}{1274}$.
4. Mauza Falgoonkara No. 109, mahal lakhiraj bajapti, Shaikh Jamaluddin (pargana Tishna), tauzi No. $\frac{671}{1436}$.
5. Police bajapti mahal, mudafat Panchu Hazari (pargana Tishna), tauzi No. $\frac{2055}{1464}$.
6. Mauza Chotora No. 20, mahal bajapti (pargana Meherkul), tauzi No. $\frac{1190}{124}$.

The identity of the above mahals, which came under settlement operations along with the Chakla Roshnabad Estate, was merged in that of the latter; and the estate authorities lost sight of them. It was at attestation that they were discovered as separate revenue-paying mahals; and they were treated as such. For particulars regarding them, I would refer to this office No. 232, dated the 22nd December 1896.

4. The staff, employed on settlement during the year, consisted of the Settlement officer and his six assistants. The subjoined table shows the period for which each officer was engaged, the distribution of work, the circle held and the number of days spent by each on tour during the year under report:—

NAME OF OFFICER.	Designation.	Period for which employed and distribution of work.	Circle of each officer.	Number of days spent on tour.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
J. G. Cumming, Esq., C.S.	Settlement officer	1st October 1896 to 27th July 1897. General supervision and case-work.	Case-work in the Northern and partly in the Central division of the Chakla Roshnabad Estate, also in Rajapur within Gangamandal Estate.	190	
Babu Moti Lal Roy ...	Assistant Settlement officer.	4th January to 30th September 1897. Case-work and attestation.	Attestation in village Rajapur within Gangamandal Estates and in the Southern division, Chakla Roshnabad Estate; case-work in the Central division.	35	Except when employed on attestation in February, May and June, did case-work at head-quarters.
„ Suriya Kumar Das.	Ditto	2nd November 1896 to 13th May 1897. Attestation work.	Northern and Southern division, Chakla Roshnabad Estate.	165	
„ Jogendra Kumar Bose.	Ditto	15th November 1896 to 11th May 1897. Attestation work.	Central division, Chakla Roshnabad Estate.	162	
„ Annada Charan Guha.	Ditto	1st November 1896 to 12th May 1897. Attestation work.	Southern division, Chakla Roshnabad Estate.	169	
„ Kailas Chandra Biswas.	Ditto	1st November 1896 to 30th September 1897. Attestation work, including attestation of tenure-holders' khataians and of khewats; also case-work under section 105.	Attestation of raiyati khataians in the Central and of tenure-holders' khataians and of khewats in the Central and Southern divisions.	233	Was on privilege leave during October 1896.
Maulvi Aminul Islam	Ditto	31st October 1896 to 14th April 1897. Attestation work.	Southern division, Chakla Roshnabad Estate.	146	

The Southern, like the other two divisions of the Chakla Roshnabad Estate, is a division adopted for the management of the estate. The division of the Estate for the purpose of settlement was explained in the last year's annual report.

5. During the year of report, attestation did not commence till November 1896. The programme for the field-season was to wind up attestation proceedings in Chakla Roshnabad by completing the arrears that were still left in all the three divisions of the Estate, that was, to attest an area of 249.04 square miles, comprised in 636 villages. By the 2nd November four camps were started, two in the Central division under the Assistant Settlement officers, Babus Surjya Kumar Das and Kailas Chandra Biswas, and two in the Southern division under Maulvi Aminul Islam and Babu Annada Charan Guha. On the arrival of Babu Jogendra Kumar Bose in the middle of November, he took the place of Babu Surjya Kumar Das in the Central division, while the latter proceeded to the Northern division to take up what work had remained uncompleted at the end of the previous field-season. Latterly, Babu Surjya Kumar Das was deputed to the southernmost part of the Southern division immediately bordering upon the Chittagong district. Between themselves, Babus Kailas Chandra Biswas and Jogendra Kumar Bose finished the whole of the Central division with the exception of only one village covered by the notification No. 534 L.R., dated the 8th February 1897, referred to in paragraph 3; but the withdrawal, before their time, from settlement duty of the officers at work in the Southern division, owing to the exigencies of famine, brought work to a halt in that division, leaving a balance of 35 villages with an area of 29.13 square miles after the circles which they had in hand had been completed by Babu Moti Lal Roy. A large and complicated lakhiraj dispute, the decision of which was held in abeyance for the parties to come to terms, affected all the 28 villages of the Northern division in which Babu Surjya Kumar Das had to carry out attestation, and partially hindered the completion of work in every one of those villages. For this reason no terij could be prepared or status statement compiled for any one of these villages; and therefore the status statement does not agree with the total number of tenancies actually attested, as the figures for the attestation done by Babu Surjya Kumar Das have been omitted.

In addition to the attestation done in the southern division of Chakla Roshnabad Estate, Babu Moti Lal Roy completed the attestation of village Rajapur within Gangamandal, which had been placed under the control of the Settlement officer of the Maharaja's Estate.

6. The amount of attestation done in the preceding year and also in the year of review is shown in statement No. 6 enclosed herewith. The following table gives the allotment of the year's work per officer in each Division of Chakla Roshnabad and in Rajapur within the Gangamandal Estates:—

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of Division in which employed.	Number of days actually employed on attestation.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE.				REMARKS.
			Villages.	Square miles.	Tenancies.	Plots.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Babu Kailas Chandra Biswas ...	Central Division ...	Days.	218	53.69	15,588	103,692	
„ Jogendra Kumar Bose ...		134	180	47.08	11,680	80,570	
„ Surjya Kumar Das ...		136	28	18.97	10,152	26,021	
„ Annada Charan Guha ...		...	6	8.55	2,029	17,512	
„ Moti Lal Roy ...		156	72	40.58	10,942	79,449	
Maulvi Aminul Islam ...	Southern ...	28	15	15.00	4,369	30,648	
		122	81	35.85	9,653	79,068	
	Total ...	746	600	219.72	64,413	416,900	
Babu Moti Lal Roy ...	Rajapur ...	4	1	1.53	497	2,309	
	GRAND TOTAL ...	750	601	221.25	64,910	4,19,269	

The above figures for the square miles, tenancies and plots, attested during the season, do not tally with the totals of the monthly statements; but the present figures have been compiled from the subsequently prepared compilation statement of each village; and these are the correct figures.

The aggregate number of months in which the officers were solely employed on attestation, was 23 months, and the total number of plots attested were 419,269. The average outturn of work per officer per month is thus 16,770 plots. This is a great improvement on the average of 12,542 of the previous year, and is due to a better trained staff and to the fact that nearly the whole of the area attested was khas area.

7. The attestation of the tenure-holders' khatians and of khewats in all the villages of the Central and Southern Divisions in which attestation had been completed during the field season, was done by Babu Kailas Chandra Biswas subsequent to the disbandment of the attestation camps. In the Chakla Roshnabad Estate the attestation of tenure-holders' khatians follows that of the raiyati khatians. The reasons why the taluki khatians do not admit of being attested simultaneously with the raiyati khatians, have been detailed in the last two annual reports.

8. The progress of attestation work done up to date and the balance at the end of the year are embodied in the following abstract. The attestation of the last of the Ganga-mandal villages having been completed, this minor estate has been left out :—

NAME OF ESTATE.	Name of Division.	TOTAL WORK TO BE DONE.			TOTAL ATTESTATION DONE TO END OF SURVEY YEAR 1896-97.			BALANCE TO BE DONE.		
		Area in square miles.	Number of villages.	Number of plots.	Area in square miles.	Number of villages.	Number of plots.	Area in square miles.	Number of villages.	Number of plots.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Chakla Roshnabad Estate.	Northern Division	204.85	409	244,962	204.85	409	244,972	.....	.....	.....
	Central "	222.89	889	383,553	222.70	888	383,308	.....	.....	.....
	Southern "	129.11	209	223,058	99.98	174	206,077	29.13	35	243
	Total ...	556.85	1,507	851,573	527.53	1,471	834,947	29.32	36	16,381

The figures in columns 3, 4 and 5 against the Central Division in the above statement are different from those shown in the previous year's report. The discrepancy is due to the exclusion from the scope of operations of four villages. Three of these villages lay wholly outside the Chakla Roshnabad Estate, and were not covered by any notification. As for the remaining one it was comprised within Chakla Roshnabad; but, as it was settled under the Bengal Tenancy Act within the last decade, the Maharaja was not inclined to initiate proceedings again.

9. The following tabular statement will show the number of applications with respect to Chakla Roshnabad for settlement of fair rents pending at the close of the preceding year, and the number of such applications filed and the number decided during the year of report. The number of cases relating to tenures and raiyati holdings is shown separately for easy reference :—

	Number of cases pending at the close of the year ending 30th September 1896.	Number of cases instituted during the year of report.	Total.	Number of cases decided during the year of report.	Number of cases pending at the close of the year ending 30th September 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Tenures ...	337	662	999	370	629
Raiyati holdings ...	112	568	670	182	488
Total ...	449	1,220	1,669	552	1,117

Of the applications made during the year of report 1,204 were for enhancement, and 16 for reduction of rent. All the cases for enhancement were instituted by the Raj, excepting 13 which were by the holders of a tenure in the Northern Division, 4 by lakhirajdars, and 3 by a tenure-holder of the Central Division of the Estate.

10. During the year the cases for settlement of fair rents were decided by myself and Babu Moti Lal Roy, Assistant Settlement officer. I started myself in November 1896, and Babu Moti Lal Roy in January 1897. I was occupied in case-work for a little over seven months, the rest of my time being devoted to inspection of attestation camps and the working of the sadar office, including miscellaneous routine work. Babu Moti Lal Roy also could not do case-work for more than seven and half months, the rest of his time being taken up by attestation of raiyati khatians consequent on the transfer of Babus Surjya Kumar Das and Annada Charan Guha to the General Department. I tried 394 cases in the Roshnabad Estate, of which 32 were raiyati cases, and 362 tenure cases, affecting 602 tenants. All of these relate to the Northern Division, excepting 6 raiyati cases of the Central Division. Of the raiyati cases 15 were withdrawn, and 4 compromised. In the rest rents were raised from Rs. 3,050 to Rs. 3,778, thus giving an increase of 23.85 per cent. on the average. The enhancement was allowed partly on the ground of rise in the selling price of food-grains, and mostly on the ground of excess area. Of the tenure cases 83 relating to very petty tenures were withdrawn, 3 were compromised, in 7 cases the present rents were settled as fair, and in 3 cases the rents were reduced. In the rest the rents were raised from Rs. 8,233

to Rs. 13,371, thus giving an enhancement of 62·40 per cent. against 86 per cent. of the previous year. The reduction is due to the fact that owing to a decision of the late Special Judge, I had a freer hand in easing off the enhancements which the assets produced.

11. The Assistant Settlement officer, Babu Moti Lal Roy, was able to try 8 tenure cases and 150 raiyati cases, affecting 2,972 tenants, all relating to the Central Division. Of the tenure cases, one was withdrawn, three for settlement of additional rent on excess area were dismissed, as it was held that no excess was proved, and one was dismissed owing to a defective plaint. In the rest the rent was raised from Rs. 39 to Rs. 87, or by 123·07 per cent. on the ground of excess area according to the conditions laid down in the leases creating the tenures. Of the raiyati cases two were withdrawn, and one compromised. In the rest the total rental was raised from Rs. 30,174 to Rs. 36,058, thus giving an increase of Rs. 19·50 per cent. partly on the ground of rise in the selling price of food-grains, and partly on the ground of excess area.

12. As for the minor estates, the case-work had been completed during the preceding year, excepting those relating to Rajapur in pargana Gangamandal instituted during the year under report. But the fair rent cases instituted against the tenants of Ranigach in pargana Gangamandal, which were dismissed for default by the Assistant Settlement officer, Babu Bisweswar Bhattachariya, were remanded on appeal for re-trial on their merits. These have since been decided by me. The rents of the raiyats were raised from Rs. 322 to Rs. 556, thus giving an enhancement of Rs. 72·67 per cent. solely on the ground of excess area. Appeal has again been made against this decision. The fair rent-cases regarding Rajapur were completely heard by me, but owing to my sudden transfer final orders remain to be passed.

13. According to the intimation officially received, the number of decisions in fair rent-cases appealed against during the year of report is 297; and 337 are pending from the previous year. Altogether 75 appeals were decided during the year, and the result of the decided appeals is that in 61 cases the original decisions were upheld, in 2 reversed, in 5 modified, and in 7 the cases were remanded for retrial. Of the 61 cases upheld, only 23 were decided on their merits. The appeals were mostly decided by the Special Judge, the late Mr. Cox, and partly by Mr. H. R. Ransom, and partly by Mr. F. S. Hamilton. In one tenure case the original order passed by me was reversed by Mr. Cox on a technical ground. The original order was passed *ex-parte*; but in the Appellate Court it was brought to light that the present rent of the tenure had been previously fixed by a compromise between the parties, according to which the rent of the tenure was not legally liable to enhancement at the time of the suit. In one raiyati case the original decision was reversed by Special Judge, Mr. Ransom, on the ground that the rent paid by the raiyat was a consolidated rent for the entire holding, and in another remanded for retrial he held that the evidence as to the rise in the selling price of food-grains was not sufficient. I shall not discuss here these points at length. But I remark that apart from the small number of appeals which have been decided, there is the fact that in these two points, excess area and rise in prices, the decisions of one Special Judge as regards nature of holdings and sufficiency of proof have been, on exactly the same facts and on the same evidence, entirely in disaccord with the decisions of the other two Special Judges.

14. Draft publication has been carried on, as in the past year, through the agency of selected head muharrirs who were sanctioned as kanungos. In the Central Division 110 villages, covering 21·47 square miles, were draft published up to the end of the previous year, and in 112 during the year under report, covering 21·17 square miles—in all 222 villages with 42·64 square miles to the end of the year under report. The progress of draft publication in this Division is almost up to date with the settlement of rents. In the Northern Division during the preceding year draft records were published wholly in only 2 villages covering 0·59 square mile, and partly in 118 villages. During the year under report 210 villages were draft published in part. The non-publication of complete draft records in any of the Northern Division villages during the year under review is to be attributed to the same reasons as were recorded in the last year's annual report. Final publication of records was made only in the Central Division. During the past year, 97 villages were finally published, covering an area of 19·84 square miles, and in the year under report 88 villages covering 16·85 square miles: thus making a total of 185 villages with 36·69 square miles up to date. The draft and final publication of the village Ranigachh within the Gangamandal Estate, which were completed last year, were revoked, the section 104 cases affecting it having been remanded on appeal and retried. This village was again finally published during the year of report, and the other two villages of Rampur-Panchara, which had been draft published in the previous year, were also finally published.

15. There have been instituted in Chakla Roshnabad up to the end of the previous year 215 objections under section 105, and during the year under report 106—in all 321. Of these 215 were disposed of in the preceding year, and 100 in the year of report. The remaining 6 were filed too late in September 1897 to be disposed of within the year. Under section 106, 7 cases have been instituted during the year, of which 5 have been disposed of. The one pending section 106 case of the previous year has also been disposed of. The total number of cases instituted altogether under this section to the end of the year of report has been 24, of which only 2 are pending. As for the minor estate of Gangamandal the one section 105 objection that remained at the end of the previous year was disposed of during the year. There was no objection under section 105 or dispute under section 106 instituted during the year.

16. No expenditure was incurred during the year under the head of survey. The cost under this head up to date against each of the three estates is as follows :—

			Rs.
Chakla Roshnahad ...	...	...	1,94,886
Palpara ...	...	...	960
Gangamandal ...	...	...	240
Total			1,96,086

The cost of settlement for the three estates for the year was Rs. 63,594-1-0, and from the beginning Rs. 2,02,972-10-7. The following table gives the apportionment of cost for each estate.

Name of estate.	Settlement expenditure for the survey year 1896-97.	Settlement expenditure from the beginning.
1	2	3
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Chakla Roshnahad ...	63,005 8 5	1,99,929 13 5
Palpara ...	4 8 0	1,692 11 1
Gangamandal ...	685 1 3	1,451 2 9
Total ...	63,695 1 8	2,03,073 11 3

The actual expenditure for the last twelve months, as shown in the above statement, cannot be profitably compared with the budget estimate, as these estimates are prepared for the financial year ending 31st March. The expenditure on survey and settlement of Chakla Roshnahad from the commencement of operations down to the end of the year under report amounts to Rs. 3,94,815-13-5. This gives a cost rate of 17·6 annas per acre, which may be contrasted with the cost rate of 9·7 annas at the end of 1893-94; 11·7 annas at the end of 1894-95; and 14·9 annas at the end of 1895-96.

17. The attitude of the tenants during the year has been almost the same at every new camp; stubborn unreasonableness to begin with, followed by a mild interest. In two instances violence was resorted to; but it had not the effect which was intended. Many of the Raj subordinates have continued the line of obstruction for which the tenantry are distinguished.

18. On my departure from the district at the end of July my staff have loyally carried out my directions as regards disposal of case-work, compilation of statistics, preparation of correction traces, issue of notices, attestation of tenure-holders' khatians, copying of records, publication in draft, and final publication.

19. In conclusion I beg to acknowledge the capable assistance given to me by my assistants, Babus Surjya Kumar Das, Jogendra Kumar Bose, Annada Charan Guha, and Kailas Ohandra Biswas, in field-work. Maulvi Aminul Islam had difficulties on account of inexperience which he did his best to overcome. Babu Moti Lal Roy's labours has been principally in case-work.

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of Boundary Disputes dealt with under the Bengal Survey Act for the year ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	NUMBER INSTITUTED.			NUMBER DISPOSED OF.			NUMBER remaining at the end of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
	From the beginning of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted, including appeals pending from preceding year.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the decision of the Revenue Officer has been—			
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
J. G. Cumming, Esq., C.S.	125	...	125	123	2	125	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	

Settlement Officers' Annual Return of attestation work, including final publication of records, for the year ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of circle.	Number of villages in the circle.	Area of the circle in square miles.	Number of villages of which records received from the Survey Department.	ATTESTATION WORK DONE UP TO THE END OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.				ATTESTATION WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.				NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN DRAFT PUBLISHED.		NUMBER OF VILLAGES IN WHICH RECORDS HAVE BEEN FINALLY PUBLISHED.	
					Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Number of villages.	Number of square miles.	Number of tenants.	Number of plots.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<i>Chakla Roshnabad Estate.</i>																
J. S. Cumming Esq., c.s., Settlement officer.	Northern and Central Divisions.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	112 wholly 210 partly	...	88
Babu Suriya Kumar Das, Assistant Settlement officer.	Northern Division.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28	18.97	10,153	26,021	...	...	...	...
" Kailas Chandra Biswas, Assistant Settlement officer.	Central Division.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	218	53.69	15,555	103,592	...	...	...	...
" Jogendra Kumar Boso, Assistant Settlement officer.	Central Division.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	186	47.83	11,680	83,574	...	...	...	...
" Annada Charan Guha, Assistant Settlement officer.	Central Division.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	72	40.56	10,312	70,449	...	...	...	...
Maulvi Aminul Islam, Assistant Settlement officer.	Southern Division.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31	36.85	9,053	79,068	...	...	...	...
Babu Suriya Kumar Das, Assistant Settlement officer.	Southern Division.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	8.55	2,029	17,512	...	...	...	...
" Moti Lal Roy, Assistant Settlement officer.	Southern Division.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	15.09	4,369	30,648	...	...	...	...
Total		1,507	556.88	1,507	671	307.81	109,735	417,987	680	219.72	64,413	416,960	112 wholly 116 partly	112 wholly 210 partly	97	88
<i>Gangamandla Estate.</i>																
J. G. Cumming, Esq., c.s., Settlement officer.	Rampur, Pan-ohara and Rajnagar.	3	1.16	3	3	1.16	333	2,434	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	3
Babu Moti Lal Roy	Rajnagar.	1	1.63	1	...	...	...	...	1	1.63	497	2,369	...	...	...	...

FORM No. 7.

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of cases under Section 104 of the Bengal Tenancy Act for the year ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Name of Circle.	Area of the Circle in square miles.	NUMBER OF CASES INSTITUTED.			NUMBER OF CASES DISPOSED OF—			NUMBER OF TENANTS FOR WHOM FAIR RENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED—			Former rental of tenants included in column 11.		New rental of tenants included in column 11.		NUMBER OF DECISIONS APPEALED AGAINST TO SPECIAL JUDGE—			NUMBER OF APPEALS OF DECISIONS DECIDED.			REMARKS.	
			Up to the end of the pre-vious year.	During the year.	Total.	Up to the end of the pre-vious year.	During the year.	Total.	Up to the end of the pre-vious year.	During the year.	Total.	Up to the end of the pre-vious year.	During the year.	Total.	Up to the end of the pre-vious year.	During the year.	Total.	Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Chakla Roshnabad.																							
J. G. Cumming, Esq., C.S., Settlement officer ...	Northern Division	...	512	612	1,124	181	362	543	174	274	448	8,233	13,371	11	213	224	...	12	12	12	...	...	...
J. G. Cumming, Esq., C.S., Settlement officer ...	Central Ditto	{	95	50	75	13	...	13	13	...	13	...	...	4	...	4	...	3	3	1	...	...	1 remanded.
Babu Moti Lal Roy, Assistant Settlement officer ...			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Bisweswar Bhatia, charia, Assistant Settlement officer ...			...	...	...	...	...	6	...	6	6	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total			537	662	1,199	200	370	570	193	277	470	8,272	13,458	15	213	228	...	15	15	13	...	1	1 ditto.
Palpara.																							
Babu Bisweswar Bhatia, charia, Assistant Settlement officer ...	Palpara	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chakla Roshnabad.																							
J. G. Cumming, Esq., C.S., Settlement officer ...	Southern Division	...	...	50	50	...	26	...	...	...	...	2,365	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
J. G. Cumming, Esq., C.S., Settlement officer ...	Northern ditto	...	...	52	102	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,901	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Babu Moti Lal Roy, Assistant Settlement officer ...	Central ditto	{	139	456	645	71	6	77	891	72	1,063	685	877	54	2	46	...	32	32	25	5	...	2 ditto.
" Bisweswar Bhatia, charia, Assistant Settlement officer ...			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Bisweswar Bhatia, charia, Assistant Settlement officer ...			...	...	...	...	...	49	...	49	749	...	749	...	...	42	...	42	...	27	27	22	...	1 4 ditto.
Total			239	558	797	127	182	309	1,533	3,267	5,120	33,224	39,836	42	...	47	...	60	60	48	5	1 6 ditto.	
Gangamandal Estate.																							
J. G. Cumming, Esq., C.S., Settlement officer ...	Ranigach	...	...	44	44	...	44	44	...	44	44	322	556	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Bisweswar Bhatia, charia, Assistant Settlement officer ...	Panchora	...	124	306	306	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total			203	...	203	208	...	268	230	...	230	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Palpara Estate.																							
Babu Bisweswar Bhatia, charia ...	Palpara	...	203	...	203	208	...	268	230	...	230	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Settlement Officer's Annual Return of objections under section 105 and disputes under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act, for the year ending 30th September 1897.

NAME OF REVENUE OFFICER.	Nature of case.	NUMBER INSTI- TUTED—			NUMBER DISPOSED OF—			Number remaining at the end of of the year.	NUMBER OF APPEALS UP TO THE END OF THE YEAR UNDER REPORT.					REMARKS.
		Up to the end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.	To end of the previous year.	During the year.	Total.		Instituted.	Decided.	Number of cases in which the deci- sion of the Reve- nue Officer has been—			
											Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
J. G. Cumming, Esq., C.S.	(1) Objections heard and considered under section 105 of the Tenancy Act. (2) Disputes tried as civil suits under section 106 of the Tenancy Act.	215	106	321	215	100	315	6	...	...	...	...	...	Roshnabad Estate.
		1	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	Gangamandal Estate.
		17	7	24	16	6	22	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	Roshnabad Estate.
		14	...	14	14	...	14	...	2	...	...	...	...	Palpara Estate.

Settlement Officer's Annual Financial Statement for the year ending 30th September 1897.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Expenditure to the end of the previous year (against each sub-head).	Expenditure during the year (against each sub-head).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	
1. Pay and special allowance of Settlement officer.		18,142 15 5	The expenditure for the year under report will not agree with the monthly totals from October 1896 to September 1897, on account of adjustments in the office of the Accountant-General, Bengal.
Assistant Settlement officer	...	11,526 2 3	
2. Fixed establishment	...	4,396 10 8	
3. Temporary establishment	...	21,315 11 2	
4. Contract and job-work	...	650 7 0	
5. Travelling allowance of officer	...	3,240 3 0	
Establishment	...	808 5 3	
6. Supplies and services:—			
Forms and stationery from the Superintendent of Stationery.		48 3 9	
Cost of country stationery		55 2 3	
Tents	...	163 3 0	
Carriage of forms	...	11 0 0	
Petty construction	...	205 0 0	
repairs	...	104 15 0	
7. Contingencies:—			
Cost of books and maps	...	5 10 0	
Office expenses	...	141 0 0	
Hot-weather charges	...	59 12 2	
Municipal rates and taxes	...	19 12 0	
Repair of tents	...	55 1 3	
Purchase and repair of furniture	...	166 9 9	
Service telegrams	...	37 7 0	
Printing at private presses	...	214 16 0	
Postage charges	...	93 9 9	
Miscellaneous	...	1,650 8 0	
8. Unforeseen	...	587 8 0	
Total	1,39,378 9 7	63,695 1 8	

	RS. A. P.
I.—Pay and allowance (including travelling allowance) of Settlement officer	19,461 1 5
II.—Pay and travelling allowance of the head office establishment	3,402 5 2
IV.—Attestation	28,486 9 9
V.—Case-work	3,512 2 8
VI.—Draft and final publication	703 10 2
VII.—Copying and torij establishment	4,398 0 5
VIII.—Miscellaneous	3,726 4 1
Total	63,695 1 8

FORM No. 10.

Statement showing the status and rents of tenants as recorded in the khatians for the year ending 30th September 1897.

CLASS OF CULTIVATOR.	PARTICULARS OF CULTIVATED LANDS.							REMARKS.
	Number of holdings.	Percentage of holdings to total.	Aggregate cultivated area held by each class.	Percentage of area to total.	Average area per holding.	Rent.	Incidence of rent per cultivated acre.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
						Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Proprietor's <i>str</i> (<i>nij-jote</i>) ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
2. Held by proprietor but not true <i>str</i> .	629	1.16	710.85	.75	1.13	.....	.....	
3. In cultivating possession of tenure-holders.	2,644	4.03	3,078.28	3.21	1.21	.....	.....	
4. Raiyats at fixed rates or fixed rents...	36	.06	253.42	.26	7.21	444 0 0	1 12 2	
5. Settled raiyats	49,551	90.49	90,570.96	94.40	1.82	3,33,003 0 0	3 10 0	
6. Occupancy raiyats	1,012	1.85	358.53	.37	.36	491 0 0	1 0 0	
7. Non-occupancy raiyats	937	1.80	974.53	1.02	.99	.....	.....	
8. Rent-free holders ... ..						.....	.....	
Total	54,768	.....	96,043.66	.....	.....	3,33,938 0 0	.....	
9. Under-raiyats	4,737	.....	2,435.18	.....	.51	12,764 0 0	5 3 10	

APPENDIX XIV.

No. 33, dated Khulna, the 23rd October 1897.

From—BABU SARAT CHANDRA SEN GUPTA, Settlement Officer,
To—The Collector of Khulna.

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report on the settlement of the Tantibunia estate for the year ending 30th September 1897.

2. Detailed information under the headings 1 to 9, prescribed in Rule 10, Chapter 5, Part I, page 18 of the Survey and Settlement Manual, 1895, given in the last year's report, has not been embodied in the present report over again.

Progress in settlement of fair rents.

3. Five appeals, including the three reported last year, were preferred against my fair rent decisions in 118 cases. My decision was upheld in one case, and reversed in one, in which I thought the excess of 2½ per cent. to be too small for assessment, as it was probably due to the different system of measurement, which did exclude *ails*. The Special Judge allowed the excess. Two cases were remanded. One, which I rejected for having been filed after time, was considered by the appellate court to be a dispute under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act. In the other 14 pattas and kabuliyats admitted without proper attestation were held to be not strictly legal evidence. One appeal is pending since June 1896. The cases remanded were heard and decided again during the year under report, and no party concerned preferred further appeal. Last year the rents were reported to have been enhanced from Rs. 10,232 to Rs. 13,075. But the decisions in appeals and remand cases have reduced the settled rent from Rs. 13,075 to Rs. 12,967.

4. In four villages the records affected by the decisions in appeal and remanded case were republished in draft on the 6th August 1897.

5. There were altogether 21 appeals, including the three reported last year, against my decisions under section 106, Bengal Tenancy Act. My decisions were upheld in seven and modified in two cases. Five cases were remanded, in four of which I held the court-fees insufficient under rule 3, chapter 3, page 7 of the Survey-Settlement Manual, and in accordance with the Board's No. 174A., dated 6th February 1897, to the address of the Director of Land Records. The parties failing to pay the requisite court-fees, the cases were dismissed. Subsequently, the High Court ruling (page 973, volume XXIII, Indian Law Reports, Calcutta series) in the case Upadhyay Thakur *versus* Prosad Singh issued, and the cases were remanded on appeal accordingly. In the other case the evidence of two more witnesses was considered necessary. The remand cases have all been disposed of during the year under report, and records and maps corrected. Nothing is known about further appeals. In three cases my decisions were reversed. Of these, in one case the respondent did not object to the appellant's claim, and in the other two cases the evidence of possession was considered insufficient by the appellate court. Four appeals are still pending since June 1896.

6. The affected records of 5 villages were finally published again on the 5th August and 14th and 15th September last. The two sets of copies reported last year to have been made for distribution, were compared, certified and distributed to resident raiyats and some tenure-holders. Besides these, 5 sets of copies of all records and maps had to be made for proprietors, and 15 copies of records in which tenure-holders were interested had to be made. Records are being arranged for deposit in the record room.

Progress made in assessment of land revenue.

7. The estate was notified for record of rights under section 101 (2) (b) of the Bengal Tenancy Act, and it is not a revenue settlement.

Cost.
(a) Survey.

8. In the last year's report Rs. 4,149 were reported to have been the cost of survey for 1894-95. There being no information in this office to show the expenditure incurred by the Survey Department during 1895-96, no mention was made of it in my report of the last year. The annual report for 1895-96, published later on, shows an expenditure of Rs. 1,070 during 1895-96. No expenditure was reported to have been incurred on account of survey operation during the year under report. The total expenditure on account of survey comes to Rs. 5,219 so far as known to this office.

(b) Settlement.

9. Rupees 1,354 have been expended on account of settlement during the year under report, and Rs. 6,356 from the beginning of the operations, against Rs. 7,317 + Rs. 300 estimated. The financial statement for the year will show the details of expenditure. The balance remaining will be required for the completion of the operation.

Apportionment of costs and arrangement for realization of costs of survey-settlement amount realised.

10. *Progress made in assessment of land revenue.*—Government orders about apportionment of costs were received in this office on the 16th July last. A detailed statement was accordingly prepared and submitted on the 29th July last for sanction, which was obtained on the 24th August last. Notices issued on all concerned, and parties were verbally informed about costs when raiyats' copies were distributed. Rupees 2,383 were realised during the year under report, besides Rs. 5,500 already in deposit. Requisitions for certificates for the realisation of the balance were made under rules 14 and 15, chapter 14, page 105 of the Survey-Settlement Manual.

Notices of any failure to realise the estimate of land revenue.

11. This is not a revenue settlement.

12. This was dealt with in my last year's reports in detail.

Conclusion.

13. The riots, murders, and breaches of the peace, which brought about the survey-settlement, have ceased.

Dated Khulna, the 23rd October 1897.

-Memo. by— W. H. VINCENT, Esq., Collector.

Copy, with copy of enclosures, submitted to the Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal. Another copy is being submitted to the Commissioner.

Settlement Officer's Annual Financial statement for 1896-97.

MAIN SUB-HEADS OF BUDGET.	Budget allotment as per Board's No. 208, dated 17th May 1897, and Director's No. 463T.S., dated 22nd October 1897.	Expenditure to end of previous year.	Expenditure during the year.	Balance.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1. Pay and allowance of Settlement Officer.	2,956	2,040	324	592	Column 2.—The difference of figures is due to the revision of estimates (<i>vide</i> Board's No. 208A., dated 17th May 1897, to the Director; this office estimate No. 3, dated 1st May 1897, and No. 10, dated 1st June 1897, and Director's No. 359T.S., dated 26th September 1897.
(a) His contribution ...	408	...	...	408	
2. Fixed establishment ..	1,859	1,127	662	70	Sub-head 1, column 3.—The difference is due to the fact that the pay of the Settlement officer from 27th December 1895 to 31st August 1896 has been charged against settlement in accordance with Director's letter No. 435T.S., dated 22nd October 1896. In the return for the last year only his pay for certain portions of these months was charged.
3. Temporary establishment ...	120	...	71	49	
4. Contract and job work ...	37	37	...	...	Sub-head 2, column 3.—Rupees 18 were not included last year through oversight.
5. Travelling allowance of Settlement Officer.	1,646	1,392	175	79	
6. Supplies and services—					Sub-head 7c, column 3.—Rs. 5 were not included last year through over sight.
(a) Forms and stationery	201	75	71	55	
(b) Mathematical instrument.	89	89	...	...	
(c) Furniture ...	23	23	...	...	
7. Contingencies—					
(a) Hot-weather charges...	15	11	4	...	
(b) Conveyance of records	128	108	12	8	
(c) Postage and miscellaneous charges.	135	100	35	...	
	7,617	5,002	1,354	1,261	

S. C. SEN GUPTA,

Settlement Officer.



No. 71A.

FROM C. R. MARRIOTT, Esq.,

Offg. Secretary to the Board of Revenue, L.P.,

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL,

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Dated Calcutta, the 15th January 1898.

LAND REVENUE.
(Surveys and Settlements.)

SIR,

I AM directed to submit, for the information of Government, the reports of the Superintendent of Settlement-Surveys, Bengal, and of the Director of Land Records, for the survey and settlement year ending on the 30th September 1897.

2. The above reports were due to the Board on the 15th December. The latter was received on the 7th, and the former on the 15th idem, but without the usual maps, which were not ready.

3. Both reports are full and interesting, and they give such a comprehensive review of the operations of the survey year under report that the Board do not consider it necessary to further summarise their contents, or to do more than to offer their remarks on the figures and subjects which strike them as possessing special importance.

4. In the report of the Superintendent of Settlement-Surveys the chief points worthy of notice are the following:—

- (i) *The great diversity of rates of cost per square mile.*—These are fully explained in paragraphs 7 to 10 of the report, and the Board consider that the explanations are satisfactory. They illustrate very forcibly the difficulty of making a fairly close estimate beforehand of the cost per acre of survey and settlement operations under the Bengal Tenancy Act.
- (ii) *The change of procedure in regard to the survey of diara lands.*—This is described in paragraph 13 of the report, and has the approval of the Board.
- (iii) *The distribution of area slips to landlords and tenants before final attestation.*—*Vide* paragraph 24. The Board consider that this is a most valuable and practical innovation, and that it is worthy of general adoption whenever possible.
- (iv) *Imposition of fines.*—The Board are glad to observe, from paragraphs 29—31 of the report, that great judgment and care are exercised in this matter, which considerably affects the popularity, and consequent success, of the operations.
- (v) *Training of young Civilians.*—The Board consider that it is a matter of regret that no junior Civilians were attached to any of the survey parties under the Superintendent for the purpose of instruction. The exigencies of famine work were probably responsible for the omission. The Board are specially dealing with this matter in connection with the report called for by Government on the recommendations of the Agricultural Conference.
- (vi) *Changes due to fluvial action.*—The account given by the Superintendent of the changes in the Noakhali district is interesting from more than one point of view, and illustrates the special difficulties of revenue and magisterial administration in that and similar districts.

5. The settlement work of the year is clearly and succinctly summarised in paragraphs 2 to 5 of the Director's report; and in paragraphs 6 to 22 he has given an account of the various important questions which have been dealt with during the year.

6. As regards the subject dealt with in paragraph 7, the matter, as far as the Board are concerned, stands at present thus:—

The proposals of the Board for revision of the rules in the Survey and Settlement Manual, 1895, relating to the levy of court-fees in proceedings under Chapter X of the Tenancy Act, which were made in their letter No. 819A., dated the 23rd July 1897, have practically been accepted by both the Bengal and the Supreme Governments, the latter only preferring that a fee of eight annas should be levied from each tenant joining in an application for settlement of fair rents where land revenue is not being settled. The Director has been called upon to revise the proposals made in his No. 2091S., dated 23rd August 1897, in the light of the remarks of the Government of India. The draft of the revised rules called for in Government order No. 3819L.R., dated the 17th December 1897, will be submitted as soon as the Director's reply is received.

7. The Board offer the following remarks as supplementary to, and explanatory of, various paragraphs of the Director of Land Records' report:—

Paragraph 23.—The progress made in settling rents is, in the Board's opinion, highly satisfactory and beyond the most sanguine anticipations. The percentages of increase shown in column 8 of the second table are also fairly uniform. With reference to the Director's remark about the non-valuation of zamindars' *nij-jot* lands, the Board have in their letter No. 1333A., dated 16th December 1897, to the address of Government, agreed with the Commissioner of Orissa in condemning and putting a stop to the practice of under-valuing such lands as a means of softening the blow of reduction of income. Such a procedure only tends to obscure the real assets, and is not now necessary in face of the India Government orders No. 2397—192-2, dated 13th October 1897, paragraphs 18 and 19. The Board have full confidence in Mr. Macpherson's assurance that the acceptances, by tenants, of proposed rents are "in the main genuine"; and the facts that only 1,820 tenants out of 1,048,462 objected to the rents settled, and that up to the end of September 1897 only 9 appeals had been filed before the Special Judge against settled rents are, in the Board's opinion, eloquent as to the care and moderation of the Settlement Officers. As regards the assessment of land revenue, the Board have, to date, received from the Commissioner the records of 191 cases, and have disposed of 36. Under

* *Vide* India Government order No. ²³⁹⁷192-2, dated 13th October 1897: Bengal Government order No. 3742L.R., dated 9th December 1897: and Bengal Government demi-official No. 7T.R., dated 29th April 1897.

existing rules and orders* many of these could have been disposed of by the Settlement Officer, or by the Commissioner, without reference to the Board. But as they had been submitted before the receipt of the above orders, Mr. Toynbee intends to examine them all very carefully, and to satisfy himself that, as test and standard cases, they fulfil all requirements. So far as the 36 cases disposed of show, the work has been thoroughly performed and a record has been prepared which is fuller and more complete than anything of the kind which Mr. Toynbee has ever seen. The orders of Government are still awaited on the question of *kistbandis* and latest dates (*vide* Board's letter No. 7A., dated 4th January 1898). When these orders have been received the existing assessment rules will be revised and brought up to date by the Director of Land Records and submitted to Government for final approval after scrutiny by the Board.

Paragraph 24.—The settlements of the island of Kutubdia and of the Chakaria thana were approved by Government in their letter No. 624T.R., dated 24th June 1897; and they have also, since the close of the survey year under report, sanctioned the settlement of thana Teknaf (*vide* Government order No. 824T.R., dated 4th October 1897), and agreed in the view taken by the Board that progressive rates should not be applied to the long-term taluks.

Paragraph 25.—The reports referred to have not yet been received by the Board. The rates of rent, which are practically the same as those of the last settlement, were sanctioned in Government order No. 77T.R., dated 29th April 1897. In this letter Government also approved of the settlement being made on the *uttakar* system (under which rent is paid for every bigha of land

within a tenant's holding) instead of on the *puriadari* system (under which up-lands are not assessed at all).

Paragraph 26.—This settlement is not under the Board's supervision.

Paragraph 27.—The Board have, in their letter No. 1273A., dated 29th November 1897, submitted to Government a report regarding the division of assets between Government and the proprietors.

Paragraph 30.—The Survey Department was employed chiefly on three different kinds of work in the Noakhali district, viz.—

(a) Cadastral survey and record-writing of certain Government estates in the islands of Sandip and Hatiya.

(b) Topographical survey, on 16" = 1 mile scale, of other Government estates; and

(c) Topographical survey, on 2" = 1 mile scale, of a portion of the islands of Sandip and Hatiya as well as of other islands and new accretions at the mouths of the Feni and Megna rivers.

The report of the Director of Land Records deals with the 11 estates in the islands of Hatiya and Sandip, with an aggregate area of 97 square miles, which are under his supervision. The cadastral survey of the whole of this area is shown as completed in Appendix I of the Director's report, but in paragraph 30 it is said that the survey and record-writing of only 9 of the estates, comprising 84 square miles, was completed during the season 1896-97. The latter figures agree with the report submitted by the Superintendent of Settlement-Surveys. The Settlement Officer believes that some of the amins actually succeeded in selling *parchas* for their own advantage. This matter will be enquired into, and measures will be taken to prevent such mal-practices.

Paragraph 33.—*Kolhan.*—This Government estate is now reported to comprise an area of about 1,404 square miles, and to contain 911 villages. Its settlement was conducted under no specific law, but the procedure adopted followed, as far as possible, the settlement laws in force. The traverse survey of the estate was made by a professional party, but the field survey was supervised by the Settlement Officer, Mr. J. A. Craven, who also conducted the settlement proceedings, with the help of two Assistant Settlement Officers of junior rank and under the guidance of the Board. The work has been finished, and it is a satisfactory feature of this large settlement that it has been completed at less cost than was originally estimated. In fact, a large saving has been made without detriment to the quality of the work turned out; and considering the amount of increase obtained by the settlement, viz., about 174 per cent. (Rs. 1,77,300, against the former rental of Rs. 64,828), and that the combined survey and settlement cost only about 3½ annas per acre, the work certainly reflects great credit on the Settlement Officer and his assistants. The issue of *pattas*, and of records of rights, to the *mankis* and *mundas* is the only work now remaining to be done. The final report has just been received, and is passing through the press.

In the course of the operations the survey and record of rights of 10 *lakhiraj* villages within the boundaries of the estate were made, at the cost of the *lakhirajdars*, under the supervision of the Settlement Officer. A survey of all lands within the Chaibassa Municipality was also made under his supervision.

Paragraph 40.—The Board concur in the Director's remarks regarding the attitude taken up by the Maharaja's Manager. The appointment of an Additional Judge, which has since been made by Government in response to the representation made by the Board in their letter No. 918A., dated the 25th August 1897, will, it is hoped, have the effect of hastening the conclusion of this protracted and difficult settlement.

Paragraph 49.—Mr. Toynbee is of opinion that the tours of the Director of Land Records were of sufficient length, and that they were productive of highly useful results. This was especially the case in regard to the special deputation of Mr. W. C. Macpherson to Orissa for 2½ months, between the 23rd June and the 5th September 1897.

Paragraphs 50 and 51.—The Board fully concur in the commendation bestowed by the Director of Land Records on the officers mentioned in these

paragraphs. Where so much good work has been done by so many officers, it may seem invidious to single out for special praise one or more of those mentioned by Mr. W. C. Macpherson; but so far as their work has come prominently before the Board, Mr. Toynbee thinks that special mention should be made of the work of Captain Crichton and of Messrs. Allen, Maddox, Stevenson-Moore, and Cumming. As regards Mr. W. C. Macpherson himself, it is difficult to speak too highly of the zeal, energy and devotion with which he has worked, or of the successful results of his able management of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture during the period of his incumbency.

The Board also desire to acknowledge the general excellence of the reports which form the Appendices to the Director's report. Though they have not thought it necessary to review them in detail, the Board recognise that they form a valuable contribution to the settlement literature of the day, and a useful record of work done and of facts ascertained.

8. The manuscript corrections made in the Director's report are the result of correspondence between him and the Board regarding certain discrepancies pointed out by the latter, and he will be asked to issue the necessary correction slips.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

C. R. MARRIOTT,

Offg. Secretary.

No. 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ A.

COPY forwarded to the Director of Land Records, Bengal, with reference to his letter No. 2844S., dated the 6th December 1897, for information and guidance.

By order of the Board of Revenue, L.P.,

C. R. MARRIOTT,

Offg. Secretary.

CALCUTTA,
The 15th January 1898.

No. 6A.

COPY forwarded to the Superintendent of Settlement-Surveys, Bengal, with reference to his Report No. ²⁶⁹³_{R. B. IV-7}, dated the 14th October (received, 15th December) 1897, for information.

By order of the Board of Revenue, L.P.,

C. R. MARRIOTT,

Offg. Secretary.

CALCUTTA,
The 15th January 1898.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

LAND REVENUE.

CALCUTTA, THE 4TH APRIL 1898.

RESOLUTION—No. 1491.

READ—

Letter No. 71A., dated 15th January 1898, from the Board of Revenue, submitting the Reports of the Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, on Settlements, and the Superintendent of Settlement-Surveys, Bengal, on Surveys in Bengal for the year ending the 30th September 1897.

BOTH the report of the Director of Land Records and that of the Superintendent of Settlement Surveys were submitted to the Board by the due date.

The reports.

2. Captain R. T. Crichton, I.S.C., was in charge of the office of Superintendent of Settlement-Surveys throughout the year, with the exception of the period from 12th February to 17th March 1897, when he was on privilege leave, and Captain C. W. H. Symonds, Officiating Deputy Superintendent, officiated for him.

Charge and inspection.

Captain Crichton spent 95 and Captain Symonds 29 days on tour. The total of 124 days is less than the touring done in the previous year owing to the contraction of the field season in consequence of the famine in North Bihar. Mr. P. C. Lyon, c.s., acted as Director of Land Records up to 23rd November 1896, when Mr. W. C. Macpherson, c.s., resumed charge on return from furlough. Mr. Macpherson held charge for the rest of the year, with the exception of the period from 23rd June to 5th September 1897, during which he was on special duty in Orissa in connection with the settlement of that Province, and Mr. C. G. H. Allen, c.s., officiated for him in addition to carrying on his duties as Settlement Officer of Chittagong. Mr. Lyon, Mr. Allen and Mr. Macpherson were on tour for 4, 83 and 26 days respectively, exclusive of the period of Mr. Macpherson's deputation to Orissa, referred to above.

3. One small traverse section and two cadastral sections were employed in North Bihar during the year; but in view of the

SURVEY.

General results of survey during 1896-97.

advent of famine, the original programme, which provided for the traverse surveys of 50 and 317 square miles, and the cadastral surveys of 500 and 600 square miles in the district of Saran and the north of district Darbhanga respectively, could not be adhered to in its entirety, and the Saran cadastral section ultimately took up only a small area in thana Basantpur, while the Darbhanga cadastral section confined their operations to the south instead of the north of the district, the areas being selected as those which were the least likely to be affected by the prevailing distress. In view of the reduction in the Bihar survey parties, Captain Crichton was, in addition to his administrative duties as Superintendent of Settlement-Surveys in Bengal, placed in executive charge of the Bihar survey, his head-quarters being transferred from Calcutta to Bihar. The outturn of survey work during the year ending 30th September 1897 amounted to 908 square miles of traverse survey; 845 square miles of cadastral survey; record-writing for 845 square miles; and topographical survey on the 16" and 2" scales, for 211 and 199 square miles respectively.

The following statement shows the general outturn and cost of survey-settlement work during the year under report and during the preceding three years:—

YEAR.	Traverse survey.	Skeleton boundary survey.	Topographical survey.	Cadastral survey.	Record-writing.	Cost of survey.	Cost of settlement.	Total cost.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1893-94	3,485	175	.....	3,754	3,637	6,90,195	5,53,228	12,43,353
1894-95	3,091	23	1,026	2,786	3,120	6,04,304	6,97,135	13,01,439
1895-96	2,131	187	.....	2,429	2,478	4,29,091	10,00,017	14,29,108
1896-97	908	.....	410	845	845	2,20,142	11,45,019	13,65,161
Total ...	9,615	385	1,436	9,814	10,080	19,43,662	33,95,399	53,39,061

The following statement shows the comparative cost rates per square mile of survey work in different districts during the year under report:—

Localities.	Traverse survey.	Cadastral survey.	Record-writing.	TOPOGRAPHICAL.	
				16" scale.	2" scale.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Noakhali (Government estates)	34.56	89.00	58.49	...	...
Ditto (temporarily-settled)	8.28	...	...	12.28	...
Ditto ditto, 2"	4.64	...	...	...	5.96
Midnapore	98.75	302.67	199.33	...	...
Saran	89.31	142.03	128.62	55.48	...
Darbhanga	54.84	78.31	87.47	27.00	...

During the year the total area cadastrally surveyed amounted to 845 square miles, and the total cost of cadastral survey and record-writing to Rs. 1,78,511; the average cost of survey and record-writing was therefore Rs. 211 per square mile. The Superintendent of Settlement-Surveys has satisfactorily explained the reasons for the great diversity of the rates shown in the above statement, and the Board draw attention to the difficulties which they illustrate in making a fairly close estimate beforehand of the cost per acre of survey and settlement operations under the Bengal Tenancy Act. The rates in Midnapore are no criterion of the ordinary rates either in that district or elsewhere, as in addition to the small area under survey (three square miles), the operations were for special reasons conducted with great detail in order to ensure absolute accuracy. Otherwise the abnormally high rates of the year under report are due to the general contraction of the survey programme in Bengal, and to alterations and reductions of the programme in Bihar on account of the famine. The latter course was unavoidable, while it was impossible to employ the establishments at such short notice outside of Bihar, nor was it desirable to break up the highly-trained parties.

4. With a view to giving effect to the orders of Government as to the survey of diara villages, it was decided during the year that all diara lands within the district boundaries should be traversed, and that a surveyor, provided with a skeleton map on a small scale of the village boundaries so surveyed, should pass over the ground and mark on the map an approximate line separating the fields having permanent boundaries from those subject to river action. On the river side of the line thus arrived at, all villages belonging to Government were to be cadastrally surveyed in the ordinary course, and all other villages topographically surveyed only on the 16-inch scale. During the year area slips for each holding showing the name of the principal tenant, the number of each field

in the holding, and the area of each, were for the first time prepared in the Bihar cadastral survey camps, and supplied to the Settlement Department for distribution to the tenants some time before final attestation; the supply of similar slips to the landlords is contemplated. The issue of these slips some time before attestation will enable landlords and tenants to become acquainted with the areas of their fields in sufficient time to put forward any objections they may have to make at the attestation stage, and the Lieutenant-Governor agrees with the Board that this is a most valuable and practical innovation, and worthy of general adoption wherever possible.

5. No difficulties in dealing with the people were experienced in North Bihar. It is reported that in Saran the raiyats

Attitude of the people. were apathetic in attending the cadastral camps during the detail survey stage, but showed great interest in the work at the time of *khanapuri*, and were anxious to obtain their *parchas*. In Darbhanga there was a little trouble at first, probably due to the sudden change of programme. In Noakhali no opposition, but on the other hand no help was offered. In Midnapore the test survey was accepted with indifference. The Lieutenant-Governor is glad to observe that great care is exercised in the imposition of fines for non-attendance, which, as the Board rightly remark, considerably affects the popularity, and consequent success, of the operations.

6. Owing to the exigencies of famine work, no junior Civilians could be attached to any of the survey parties for the purpose of instruction during the year.

7. The following table shows the survey work done in each district in Bihar, season by season, since the commencement of the operations in 1891:—

	TRAVERSE SURVEY.		CADASTRAL SURVEY.		RECORD-WRITING.		Total cost of cadastral survey and record-writing.	COST RATE PER SQUARE MILE.			Cost of survey and record-writing per acre.	Expenditure on settlement.
	Area in square miles.	Cost.	Number of villages.	Area in square miles.	Number of villages.	Area in square miles.		Traverse survey.	Cadastral survey and record-writing (approximate).	Total cost (approximate).		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		Rs.					Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	As.	Rs.
Muzaffarpur.	1891-92 ...	1,247	48,200	.....	.....	.....	.....	34.7	.....	.....	.....	.....
	1892-93 ...	997	38,515	1,153	629	1,062	468	35.6	152.1	190.7	Nearly 5	34,301
	1893-94 ...	Nil.	6,805	1,634	979	1,365	788	.....	146.3	.....	Over 3½	58,079
	Original work ...	.....	2,840	664	658	987	938	.....	139.3	.....	Nearly 3½	.....
	Revision of Colonel Barron's survey.	.....	.....	660	410	660	410	.....	128.8	.....	Over 3	1,28,342
	Revision survey of Raj Darbhanga villages.	.....	.....	8	14	5	7	580	73	.....	Nearly 2	.....
	Original work ...	20	991	433	452	433	452	79,690	82.58	172.31	Over 6	.....
	Revision of maps and records of 1892-93.	.....	.....	9	7	9	7	503	72.37	.....	Nearly 2	1,80,067
	Revision of maps and records of 1878-79.	.....	.....	3	7	3	7	1,074	157.00	.....	Nearly 4	.....
1896-97	.....	2	401	2	2	2	2	3,961	.....	.....	.....	1,19,174
Champa-	1891-92 ...	363	12,601	.....	.....	.....	.....	34.7	.....	.....	.....	.....
rao.	1892-93 ...	1,103	30,654	244	416	234	320	27.8	109.1	138.9	Nearly 3½	21,800
	1893-94 ...	1,320	50,498	325	517	354	599	38.3	129.2	167.5	Over 4	70,144*
	1894-95 ...	126	8,205	1,038	1,162	1,065	1,178	65.2	134	189.2	Nearly 5	57,670
	1895-96 ...	386	9,272	1,047	1,186	1,047	1,185	24.02	103.88	127.90	Over 3	1,21,102
	1896-97 ...	.....	216	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	87,869
Saran	1892-93 ...	894	34,527	.....	.....	.....	.....	33.6	.....	.....	.....	.....
	1893-94 ...	952	34,273	1,260	549	1,229	627	36.8	119.2	156	Nearly 4	.....
	1894-95 ...	516	15,238	.....	.....	.....	.....	29.5	.....	.....	.....	36,460
	1895-96 ...	52	3,304	1,204	643†	1,234	669	56.00	147.17	203.17	Over 5	62,135
	1896-97 ...	60	5,359	330	210	330	210	89.31	270.65	359.96	Nearly 9	88,135
Darbhanga.	1893-94 ...	518	16,340	.....	.....	.....	.....	31.6	.....	.....	.....	.....
	1894-95 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	1895-96 ...	1,179	27,344	14	16	14	16	23.20	108.37	126.67	Over 3	Cost included in Muzaffarpur.
	1896-97 ...	417	22,871	638	545	638	545	54.84	166.78	220.62	5½	17,089
	.....	10,132	3,63,544	10,616	8,303	10,644	8,324	11,70,120	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	1891-92 ...	1,610	55,891	.....	.....	.....	.....	35	.....	.....	As.	.....
	1892-93 ...	2,994	1,03,696	1,397	945	1,286	786	35	139	174	Nearly 4½	58,101
	1893-94 ...	2,770	1,07,916	2,045	2,948	1,914	2,637	39	132	171	Over 4	1,28,223
	1894-95 ...	642	26,283	2,360	2,244	2,700	2,531	40	137	177	Nearly 4½	2,22,472
	1895-96 ...	1,637	40,911	2,710	2,312	2,740	2,336	46	126	172	.....	3,63,294
	1896-97 ...	479	28,847	970	757	970	757	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,12,258
	.....	10,132	3,63,544	10,616	8,303	10,644	8,324	11,70,120	.....	.....	.....	10,82,348

(* Including Saran.)

† Includes 28 square miles of Majhauri Ward's estate, and excludes 11 square miles of river areas actually surveyed, but which, owing to the midstream boundary, belong to the North-Western Provinces.

The statement given below shows the total survey work done up to 30th September 1897 and remaining to be done on that date in each district:—

DISTRICT.	Total area of district.	AREAS COMPLETED.			AREAS REMAINING.		
		Traverse survey.	Cadastral survey.	Record-writing.	Traverse survey.	Cadastral survey.	Record-writing.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Muzaffarpur	3,070	3,059	3,062	3,063	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Champanan	3,531	3,298	3,280	3,280	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Saran	2,622	2,454	1,407	1,407	180	1,090	1,090
Darbhanga	3,233	2,114	561	561	1,119	2,632	2,632
Total	12,456	10,925	8,310	8,311	1,299	3,722	3,722

The survey operations in Muzaffarpur and Champanan were completed in 1895-96; but two *diara* villages, covering an area of 1.75 square miles, in the former district, which had been originally surveyed in 1893-94, were surveyed anew. In the Saran district 60 square miles, consisting wholly of *diara* lands on the Gandak river, were traversed, 25 square miles of *diara* lands were topographically surveyed, and 210 square miles cadastrally surveyed and khanapuried. Out of the total area of 2,622 square miles of the district, there remain for traverse survey 180 square miles only, including 12 square miles of the outturn of 1892-93, lying in the Gandak *diara*, which will have to be re-traversed; for cadastral and topographical survey 1,190 square miles remain to be completed. In the Darbhanga district 417 square miles were traversed, 545 square miles were cadastrally surveyed and khanapuried, and 40 square miles of *diara* lands in the Ganges river were topographically surveyed during the year. In both districts the change of programme necessitated by the famine very much delayed operations.

SETTLEMENT.

8. Settlement work under the control of the Director of Land Records was in progress in the following areas:—for revision of land revenue in temporarily-settled estates and Government estates, 8,845 square miles; for survey and record of rights in private estates other than Wards' estates, inclusive of Bihar, 12,956 square miles; and for survey and record of rights in Wards' estates, 530 square miles, or a grand total of 22,331 square miles, as compared with 19,142 square miles in the preceding year.

9. The following statement shows the work done in each district in Bihar from the commencement of the settlement proceedings:—

Bihar Settlement.

	ATTESTATION.				DRAFT RECORDS PUBLISHED.	SETTLEMENT OF PAIR RENTS UNDER SECTION 104.			CASES UNDER SECTION 105.		CASES UNDER SECTION 106.		FINAL RECORDS PUBLISHED.
	Area in square miles.	Number of villages.	Number of plots.	Number of tenancies.	Number of villages.	Number of cases disposed of.	Number of tenants affected.	Rents raised or lowered by decisions up to date.	Number of objections filed.	Number of objections disposed of.	Number instituted.	Number disposed of.	Number of villages.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Muzaffarpur	1892-93 ...	66	320	119,821	85,799	811	66	713	926	868	363	187	.....
	1893-94 ...	376	712	487,099	150,069	696	117	2,273	3,235	3,029	952	840	.....
	1894-95 ...	746.40	1,361	1,130,745	279,004	1,265	435	2,646	7,492	6,568	808	870	763
	1895-96 ...	1,319.43	1,633	2,083,026	463,038	1,541	1,859	3,862	10,817	7,697	685	315	1,161
	1896-97 ...	436.42	452	695,403	107,440	550	1,281	6,987	9,353	12,576	1,309	770	1,729
Champanan	1892-93 ...	48.43	76	34,340	7,774	75	38	1,385	48	48	40	27	.....
	1893-94 ...	380	185	323,511	61,022	185	184	15,720	2,356	2,226	206	203	.....
	1894-95 ...	491.45	376	470,660	73,695	316	823	17,896	1,690	1,097	320	328	247
	1895-96 ...	1,162	1,075	1,358,793	193,611	632	1,029	34,033	4,126	3,971	393	392	372
	1896-97 ...	665.0	491	339,511	66,698	718	514	24,970	3,532	4,050	1,814	914	891
Saran	1892-93 ...	19	68	33,155	5,130	68	33	426	1,034	947	41	31	.....
	1893-94 ...	487.41	1,160	749,533	125,315	205	1,787	19,733	415	98	23	21	57
	1894-95 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	867	1,385	21,729	7,143	6,152	116	22	11
	1895-96 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	615	1,183	7,168	9,487	6,452	503	256	998
	1896-97 ...	477.09	384	920,013	173,819	615	1,183	7,168	4,268	6,452	503	256	998
Total	1892-93 ...	112.43	396	154,161	43,573	386	104	2,098	974	916	408	214	.....
	1893-94 ...	775	965	843,765	216,221	949	354	18,419	6,825	6,202	1,199	1,074	.....
	1894-95 ...	1,725.26	2,897	2,350,938	478,014	1,846	2,545	40,325	9,507	7,763	1,151	1,219	1,072
	1895-96 ...	2,481.43	2,708	3,441,819	651,649	3,040	4,273	60,224	24,430	18,811	1,194	659	1,544
	1896-97 ...	1,578.51	1,577	1,854,927	347,957	1,883	2,978	39,155	17,153	23,078	3,626	1,940	3,618
GRAND TOTAL	6,672.63	8,843	8,645,610	1,737,414	8,104	10,234	160,191	.....	55,779	56,770	7,573	5,106	6,234

10. Mr. C. J. Stevenson-Moore, c.s., held charge as Settlement Officer of North Bihar from the date of his return from leave on 7th October 1896, and Mr. R. B. Hughes, c.s., Muzaffarpur.

was in immediate charge of the operations throughout the year in the Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga districts, with the exception of a period of about three months, during which he was absent on privilege leave. Nine Assistant Settlement Officers were employed in the district of Muzaffarpur at various times during the year. The special features of the year's work were the check to the progress caused by the famine, the large amount of case work, publication of records, and office work accomplished, and the success attained in recovery of costs in Hajipur, to which operations were limited. Attestation of records was completed in 452 villages, measuring 436 square miles, leaving only five villages still unattested in the district; 496 cases for settlement of fair rents in the area attested in 1895-96, and 785 in the area attested during 1896-97, were disposed of; 12,576 objections under section 105 of the Bengal Tenancy Act and 770 disputes under section 106 were decided, and records were finally published in 1,729 villages. From the notes kept of the nature of 1,167 objections tried by one of the Assistant Settlement Officers, it appears that 488 referred to possession and 420 to the money rents recorded; of the former, 207 were instituted by the landlord against the raiyats, 120 by raiyats against their landlords, and 66 by raiyats against raiyats. The Settlement Officer remarks that "the figures are interesting as showing that the raiyats have a full appreciation of the importance of having their holdings correctly recorded in our records and as showing that the rights of the raiyats have been well protected at attestation." Out of 131 appeals in fair rent cases disposed of by the Special Judge up to 30th September 1897, the original decisions in 104 or 79 per cent. were upheld, 14 or 11 per cent. were modified, and 13 or 10 per cent. reversed. In connection with an appeal filed by the manager of the Tikari Raj against the Settlement Officer's decision, the Special Judge remarked that the appeal should never have been filed on the unsatisfactory evidence produced. There is reason for thinking that the Ward's Estate had been following the example of certain other landlords and filing appeals in the hopes that the raiyats would eventually compromise. The Lieutenant-Governor agrees with the Settlement Officer that it is the duty of the Manager to see that appeals are not filed on purely frivolous grounds.

In boundary disputes it is most satisfactory that out of 88 appeals filed in the course of operations in this district, in only 4 were the decisions modified and in 3 reversed, while only 6 per cent. of such decisions have been appealed against, indicating that this important part of the work which has often been attacked, has on the whole been correctly done. The work remaining in Muzaffarpur district consists chiefly of attestation of 5 villages, disposal of 905 objections under section 105 and of 1,135 cases under section 106, final publication of records in 897 villages, completion of statistics and preparation of the final report, and the computation and recovery of costs.

Operations for recovery of the cost from landlords and tenants were temporarily suspended in thana Lalganj on account of the famine; but in the Hajipur thana, which was not affected by famine, 75 per cent. of the demand was collected as the result of a few days work in March 1897, without recourse to coercive measures. Altogether Rs. 39,179 were collected during the year, bringing the total recoveries from the beginning to Rs. 73,230 only. A satisfactory feature was the reduction in the cost of collection to 3.62 per cent. on the total sum collected, against a percentage of 9.33 in the previous year. A considerable sum was collected at head-quarters without the expensive procedure of a recovery camp, and the cost of computation is not included in the calculation above, but even allowing for this the improvement was considerable and the Settlement Officer anticipates with confidence the collection of the total demand with an expenditure of less than 10 per cent.

Now that the settlement in this district is nearing conclusion, some general results of the operations are not without interest. The district has been surveyed in over four million plots or survey numbers, and over a million tenancies or parcels of land have been recorded, representing twice the number of agricultural tenancies in the whole of England, Scotland and Wales. Complete statistics of the status of tenants have not yet been compiled, but it

is understood that non-occupancy raiyats and under-raiyats do not together comprise as much as 10 per cent. of the tenancies. From the beginning of the operations rents have been settled in this district for only 16,481 tenancies (omitting rents settled for 595 *dira* tenancies) out of 1,036,000 tenancies in the district, with the result, that the former rents of the tenants affected, which aggregated Rs. 1,33,932, have been raised to Rs. 1,45,759. The average incidence of rent to the acre in Muzaffarpur, as paid by various classes of raiyats, is shown by the Settlement Officer as follows, so far as figures have been compiled :—

		On entire area of holdings.				On each culti- vated acre.		
		Rs.	A.	P.		Rs.	A.	P.
Raiyats at fixed rates	...	...	3	6	4 per acre	3	14	0
Settled and occupancy raiyats	...	...	3	15	9	4	5	5
Non-occupancy raiyats	...	...	4	13	9	5	1	6
Under-raiyats	...	...	4	15	9	5	4	5

Under-raiyats generally pay produce rents. The total expenditure on survey and settlement since the commencement of the operations has been about 11 lakhs.

11. Mr. J. H. Kerr, c.s., was in subordinate charge of the operations in the Champaran district, but from the middle of February to the end of July he was deputed to act as Subdivisional Officer of Bettiah in consequence of the famine. Seven Assistant Settlement Officers were employed in the district for various periods. The programme for completion of attestation of records in this district was not accomplished on account of the famine, which interfered very seriously with the operations. During the year 665 square miles were attested; records were published in draft, and finally in 718 and 891 villages, respectively; fair rents were settled in 514 cases, and 4,050 objections under section 105 and 914 disputes under section 106 were disposed of. Out of 37 appeals in boundary disputes dealt with up to the end of the year under report, the decision of the Revenue Officer was upheld in 34, modified in 1 and reversed in 2 cases. The work of settling rents was confined during the year to areas where distress was not acute. In such areas the rents of 24,970 tenants were raised during the year, entirely on the ground of excess area, from Rs. 2,25,084 to Rs. 2,43,650. The following table shows the amount of work done in the settlement of fair rents from the beginning of operations according to the area attested in each year :—

Area.		Number of tenants for whom fair rents were settled.	Former rental.	Fair rent settled.	Enhance- ment.	Percentage of enhance- ment.
1		2	3	4	5	6
Attested in 1893-94	...	22,151	144,556	162,636	18,080	12.50
„ in 1894-95	...	12,850	109,276	120,028	10,752	9.83
„ in 1895-96	...	53,290	557,201	600,300	43,099	7.73
„ in 1896-97	...	6,313	37,249	42,112	4,863	13.05
Total	...	94,604	848,282	925,076	76,794	9.05

The increase in the enhancement allowed during 1896-97 was due to the fact that the greater part of the area attested lay along the river Gandak and is subject to constant changes from alluvion and diluvion. Practically all the increase was decreed in terms of compromises, after careful enquiry into the fairness of the rents agreed upon, while in no case was an enhancement awarded in excess of 33 per cent. The Lieutenant-Governor regrets to observe the

remarks made by the Settlement Officer as to the terrorism and oppression exercised by the agents of the Madhuban Babu over his raiyats.

A review of operations in this district, so far as figures are at present available, shows from figures compiled for 1,750 out of 2,855 villages that settled and occupancy raiyats make up $92\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the whole number of tenants. Rents have been settled for 94,601 out of a total of 402,800 tenancies for which records have been attested, with the result that former rents aggregating Rs. 8,48,283 have been raised to Rs. 9,25,076, or by 9 per cent. The average incidence of rent to the acre in Champaran, so far as statistics have been compiled, is as follows:—

	On entire area of holdings.			On each acre cultivated.		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Raiyats holding at fixed rates or fixed rents ...	1	1	6	1	4	2
Settled and occupancy raiyats pay ...	2	0	3	2	3	5
Non-occupancy raiyats pay ...	1	15	5	2	3	11
Under-raiyats pay ...	1	9	2	1	10	8

It is probable that non-occupancy raiyats and under-raiyats hold inferior lands. They pay produce rents for a great part of their lands. The average size of the holdings of the various classes of raiyats varies considerably; thus while a raiyat at fixed rates usually actually cultivates 7·5 acres, the similar holding of an occupancy raiyat is only 3·5 acres, and of a non-occupancy raiyat 1·6 acres. The Settlement Officer has given cultivation and crop statistics complete for the whole district. Of the area cadastrally surveyed 68 per cent. is cultivated and 32 per cent. is uncultivated. The following extract from the Settlement Officer's report furnishes some interesting particulars as to the different crops grown:—

“Of the net cropped area of 1,438,560 acres, rice covers nearly 52 per cent. In Shikarpur rice covers no less than 79 per cent. of the cropped area, and in Adapur 83 per cent. After rice comes barley, which is grown on 16 per cent. of the cropped area, and then maize, kodo, and wheat, which each covers about 8 per cent. Indigo is grown on only 6 per cent. of the total area; but excluding Bagaha and Shikarpur, where the quantity grown is inconsiderable, the proportion works out to nearly 9 per cent. The largest proportion of indigo is in Kesaria thana, where it covers over 11 per cent. of the cultivated area. Sugarcane covers only 9 per cent. of the total area, but in Bagaha the proportion is nearly 3 per cent. Opium is grown on 50,147 acres, or over 3 per cent. of the cultivated area. The area is greatest in Dhaka thana, where the proportion is over 6 per cent. Tobacco only covers 1,070 acres. A small quantity of coffee is grown chiefly by Muhammadans in the Bettiah and Kesaria thanas for private consumption.”

Recoveries from landlords and raiyats during the year on account of the cost of the survey and record-of-rights amounted during the year to Rs. 73,390, and altogether Rs. 1,18,567 have now been recovered. On account of the famine no attempt was made to collect from raiyats during the year, except in some villages in the Bettiah thana, where Rs. 217 only were realised.

12. Mr. M. F. Gauntlett, c.s., was in direct charge of the district of Saran throughout the year, but from 5th May to the 12th

Saran.

September he acted as Joint-Magistrate at Chapra in addition to his other duties. Thirteen Assistant Settlement Officers were employed in the district for various periods during the year. In this district also the attestation programme of the year was seriously curtailed on account of the famine. In all, more than one-half of the field survey and record writing, but not one-fourth of the attestation work, has been completed. During the year khanapuri work was completed in 212 square miles, and attestation on 477 square miles, while records were published in draft and finally in 615 and 998 villages respectively. The attestation programme was particularly heavy, containing no less than 1,303,708 plots; it suffered from the dislocation of work due to the famine. The numbers of disputes instituted and decided were very large, and an interesting account is given by the Settlement Officer of a few typical cases illustrating the difficulties which beset this branch of the work. In the area attested during the year, 725 cases for the settlement of fair rents were decided. One hundred fair rent cases were disposed of in the area attested in 1894-95, and 375 cases for the review of the original cases were instituted, of which 358 were decided. Altogether, the rents of 7,168 tenants were settled during the year, and were raised generally on compromise, and chiefly on the ground of excess area, from Rs. 91,215 to Rs. 96,462. Fifty-seven appeals in fair rent cases were decided by the Special

Judge. In 8 cases he upheld the original decisions, in 2 modified, and in 3 reversed them. The other cases were remanded for further enquiry. During the year 6,452 objections under section 105 were disposed of, and 256 disputes were tried as civil suits under section 106. So far as statistics have been compiled, it has been ascertained that settled and occupancy raiyats hold about 78 per cent. of the tenancies. The average incidence of the rent to the acre in Saran, so far as rents have been recorded, is as follows :—

		On entire area of holdings.	On each acre cultivated.
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Raiyats holding at fixed rates or fixed rents	...	3 8 0	3 13 9
Settled and occupancy raiyats	...	3 14 6	4 1 10
Non-occupancy raiyats	...	3 10 7	3 13 2
Under-raiyats	...	3 15 6	4 0 11

As it was evident that the cost of survey and record of rights in Saran would be greater than in Muzaffarpur and Champaran on account of the larger number of fields, tenants, and proprietors, and the consequent greater complication of the record-writing, an acreage rate of 10 annas was sanctioned for recovery in this district against 8 annas sanctioned for Muzaffarpur and Champaran. The only recovery made during the year was of a sum of Rs. 50,000 from the Hatwa Raj.

13. The Maharaja of Darbhanga and Raja Rameshwar Singh having agreed to an entire re-survey of all their estates in this district, in place of a revision of Mr. Finucane's survey, it was decided that the whole district should be surveyed professionally on the scale of 16 miles to the inch. Field survey and record-writing began during the year in the Samastipur and Dalsinghserai thanas instead of in the north of the district, the change of programme being necessitated by the severe famine which was prevalent in the north. Mr. R. B. Hughes, c.s., was in charge of the work in addition to his duties as Assistant Settlement Officer in charge of Muzaffarpur, and three other officers were employed for various periods in the area under khanapuri. During the year khanapuri work was completed in 585 square miles. Owing to the intricate pattidari system and the dense population, the average size of a plot worked out to only .32 of an acre. Out of 1,085,010 plots found in 545 square miles disputes were filed concerning 57,602 plots. Out of this enormous number, the revenue officers could only deal with the disputes relating to 15,904 plots, and disputes affecting 41,698 plots remained to be decided at the attestation stage. Special attention has been drawn to the necessity of greater supervision at the stage of khanapuri, and arrangements will be made to increase the number of officers so employed. During the year 301 boundary disputes were disposed of, and out of 24 appeals decided, 20 were upheld, 1 modified, and 3 reversed.

14. The expenditure on the operations in North Bihar was as follows :—

	SURVEY—		SETTLEMENT—		TOTAL—	
	During the year.	To end of September 1897.	During the year.	To end of September 1897.	During the year.	To end of September 1897.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Muzaffarpur	4,362	5,69,524	1,19,174	4,85,651	1,23,536	10,55,175
Champaran	3,314	5,07,947	87,860	3,36,776	91,174	8,44,723
Saran	63,583	3,22,604	88,135	1,86,730	1,51,718	5,09,334
Darbhanga	1,14,305	1,59,667	17,089	17,089	1,31,394	1,76,756
Total	1,85,564	15,59,742	3,12,258	10,26,286	4,97,822	25,85,988

15. The Lieutenant-Governor is glad to observe that the value and utility of the settlement records in North Bihar was practically demonstrated in several instances during the year. Scarcity maps for the districts of Champaran, Muzaffarpur, and Saran were prepared by the Settlement Department, and formed a basis of reference at the Conference held by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at Sonapur in November 1896, while the Settlement Officer draws attention to the valuable means which will be available in the crop statistics, for identifying those villages which are most largely dependent upon the rice crop and therefore most likely to suffer severely should that crop fail. The reports of the Assistant Settlement Officers while in camp were of great service in gauging the extent of distress and crop failure, while Mr. Stevenson Moore himself submitted two useful notes on the agricultural conditions of the affected area. The *parchas* in Champaran, Muzaffarpur, and Saran were invariably referred to before granting advances, and furnished an easily available and reliable record of the necessity for the loan and of the security which could be offered for its repayment. In the acquisition of land for railways and other public works the settlement records were found of the greatest value in Champaran and Darbhanga, especially in the former district, where the acquisition proceedings in connection with the land taken up for famine relief works were based entirely upon the settlement survey and records. The advantages for the purpose of land acquisition proceedings of an existing survey and record prepared by a highly trained staff and previous to the acquisition proceedings are undeniable, and the Settlement Officer gives special prominence to the point that where these records are available the necessity of a further survey should be entirely obviated. The only difficulty is one of scale, the survey scale of 330 feet to the inch being smaller than the usual land acquisition scale of 150 feet to the inch. In view of the special exigencies of the famine conditions, the adoption of the survey scale was sanctioned as a special case, and was found to work well. The matter was considered by the Officiating Lieutenant-Governor in August 1897, in connection with the utilisation of the survey and settlement records in the acquisition of railway land in Orissa. Mr. Stevens was then of opinion that while it was desirable to utilise these records as far as possible, yet in the case of minute plots the scale of 330 feet to the inch was too small to be of practical value, and the decision as to the use of the survey maps in any particular case was therefore left to the land acquisition officer.

16. The questions of the maintenance of records and boundary marks were separately dealt with in Chapter II of the Director of Land Records' Annual Agricultural Report for the year ending 31st March 1897, and were reviewed in paragraphs 2 to 5 of the Government Resolution thereon, No. 842T.-R., dated 8th October 1897. With regard to the registration of mutations under the Land Records Maintenance Act III (B.C.) of 1895, the Settlement Officer of North Bihar has furnished the following information as to the results obtained by the Sub-Registrars of Hajipur and Bettiah:—

	Total number of khatians.	Total number of mutations.	NUMBER REGISTERED.		Percentage of applications filed to number of khatians.	Percentage of successions to total number of khatians.
			Succession.	Other kinds.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Hajipur ...	57,634	5,941	603	3,510	10·3	1·04
Bettiah ...	52,036	2,016	74	1,942	3·8	·1

The Settlement Officer reports that, from enquiries made on the spot in four selected villages in the jurisdiction of the Sub-Registry Office of Hajipur, the percentages of mutations of all sorts and of transfers by succession to the total number of holdings in the villages were found to be 13·72 and 6·38, respectively, and that similar enquiries made in four villages belonging to the Laheria

Indigo Concern in Bettiah showed that over 200 transfers had actually occurred, but that only 21 had been registered. It is therefore clear that a very small percentage of the transfers by succession that have taken place have been registered, and as long as such is not the case the utility and accuracy of the records is largely impaired. Suggestions for improving the present procedure are promised with a view of more fully attaining the objects of the Act.

16. Mr. S. L. Maddox, c.s., was in charge throughout the year, as Settlement Officer of Orissa, including the Government estate of Khurda, and Messrs. H. McPherson, c.s., J. Webster, c.s., H. Carey, c.s., D. H. Kingsford, c.s., and J. Taylor were in immediate superintending charge of the operations in Puri, Cuttack (divided into two charges), Balasore and Khurda, respectively. Forty-two additional Assistant Settlement Officers were employed for various periods during the year. The following statement shows, under the main heads, the work done during the year:—

NAME OF DISTRICT.	Number of Assistant Settlement Officers employed during the year or for part of the year.	Village boundary disputes decided under the Bengal Tenancy Act.	Area in square miles for which records were attested.	Number of tenants for whom rents were settled.	Number of villages for which draft records were published.	Number of objections under section 105 heard and considered after draft publication.	Number of disputes decided under section 106.	Number of villages for which records were finally published.	Number of villages for which final khatians were copied, checked and compared.	Number of estates assessed to revenue by Settlement Officer.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<i>Cuttack.</i>										
Area under settlement, 2,273 square miles. Tenants, 860,000. Estates, 4,353.	19 to 13	None	5	364,583	1,939	13,791	373	1,263	1,995	173
<i>Balasore.</i>										
Area under settlement, 1,733 square miles. Tenants, 475,000. Estates, 1,402.	13 to 18	20	4	261,129	1,618	9,162	509	1,076	1,614	36
<i>Puri.</i>										
Area under settlement, 1,089 square miles. Tenants, 275,000.(a) Estates, 488.	12 to 4	None	None	232,333	1,735	8,943	395	1,106	1,324	102
Total temporarily-settled area	.....	20	9	558,050	5,312	31,896	1,267	3,445	4,933	311
<i>Khurda Government Estate.</i>										
Area, 913(b) square miles Tenants.	13 to 4	None	378	190,412	1,301	1,766	48	681	866	.....
GRAND TOTAL	.....	20	387	1,048,462	6,613	33,662	1,315	4,126	5,799	311

(a) Exclusive of lakhiraj bahal tenants.

(b) In Khurda, rents have to be settled for Government tenants in an area of about 40 square miles. The remaining area is (1) included in the Ekrajats or Revenue-free estate and (2) Forest.

The great progress made in the settlement of rents was a most satisfactory feature of the year's work.

In paragraph 11 of the Government Resolution upon the Report of the Director of Land Records for the year ending 30th September 1896, reference was made to the principles upon which the draft rules had been framed for the guidance of the Settlement Officers in settling rents. Certain modifications were made in these rules after the visit of the Lieutenant-Governor to Orissa in January 1897, and after a further conference in March, and the rules so modified were finally approved by the Government of India after the close of the year under report. It has been decided to fix the term of the new settlement in Orissa at 30 years. The rents of occupancy tenants are being settled for 15 years and those of non-occupancy tenants for 5. The proportion of the assets to be taken by Government as revenue in the present settlement and all other questions connected with the settlement have been finally decided on a reasonable and moderate basis, and Government has announced that, in view of the special circumstances of the present occasion, it will at this settlement be content with less than its normal share of the assets.

The results up to date of the settlement of rents in the temporarily-settled estates of Orissa are as follows:—

NAME OF DISTRICT.	Estimated total number of tenants.	Estimated total existing assets.	Tenants for whom rents have been settled from the beginning.	Existing assets dealt with to end of September 1897.	Settled assets down to 30th September 1897.	Increase of column 6 over column 5.	Percentage of increase of column 6 over column 5.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Cuttack	850,000	17 lakhs	423,782	Rs. 10,05,088	Rs. 11,66,071	1,60,983	16
Balasore	475,000	10½ "	359,041	7,67,155	8,11,485	1,44,330	18
Puri	276,000*	5½ "	252,415	6,31,733	6,10,439	78,676	17
Total ...	1,600,000	33 lakhs	1,035,238	23,03,976	26,87,965	3,83,939	16

* Exclusive of confirmed lakhiraj tenants.

In Khurda, existing rents, aggregating Rs. 2,96,814, have been raised to Rs. 3,62,438, or by 22 per cent., and rents payable directly to Government have been raised from Rs. 2,86,812 to Rs. 3,52,708. These enhancements have been accepted by the tenants, and the new rents are being realised without any friction or difficulty. Rents of cultivated lands in Khurda are being enhanced 3 annas in the rupee on account of rise of prices since 1881, when they were last settled, and the considerable increase of cultivation. Bazaar rents are being enhanced one anna in the rupee only. In the temporarily-settled estates in Cuttack existing rents have so far been retained for 58 per cent. of the tenants, in Balasore for 55 per cent., in Puri, exclusive of Khurda, for 60 per cent., and in Khurda, for 27·72 of the tenants. Since March 1897, the percentage of rents retained has been 50 to 55. The Lieutenant-Governor agrees with the Board in thinking that the progress made in settling rents is highly satisfactory and beyond the most sanguine anticipations. The work has chiefly been conducted on the basis of express acceptances given by the tenants to the rents proposed by the Revenue Officers, and Mr. Macpherson, after personal inspection of the work in a number of camps, had satisfied himself that the tenants' acceptances were genuine. That the Settlement Officers have proceeded with care and moderation is shown by the fact that only 1,820 tenants out of 1,048,462 objected to the rents settled, and that, up to 30th September 1897, only nine appeals had been filed before the Special Judge against settled rents. Out of those appeals, six are pending, in two appeals, the Revenue Officers' findings were expressly upheld, and one appeal was dismissed. Up to the end of the year assessment reports had been prepared for 311 out of the 6,243 temporarily-settled estates in Orissa, and the Commissioner had passed orders on reports for 142 estates. It is anticipated that the existing revenue of the temporarily-settled estates, viz. Rs. 13¾ lakhs, will be increased at least to 21 lakhs, or 53·4 per cent., and of Khurda, from 3 lakhs to rather over 3½ lakhs. The expenditure of the year on settlement work in Orissa amounted to Rs. 5,28,190. The expenditure from the beginning has been on survey Rs. 10,35,294 and on settlement Rs. 16,39,881.

17. Mr. C. G. H. Allen, c.s., was Settlement Officer in Chittagong throughout the year. In addition to his settlement duties, he officiated as Collector of the district for a short time on two occasions, and as Director of Land Records from 23rd June to 6th September 1897. Five Assistant Settlement Officers were employed for the whole of the year. Out of 1,037 villages under settlement, comprising an area of 1,923 square miles, assessment has now been completed for 979, and the draft records of 959 and final records of 767 have been published. Under the programme, final publication should have been completed for the whole district, but the delay was chiefly due to the under-estimate of the number of Noabad tenants. During the year, 4,696 objections under section 105 and 41 disputes under section 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act were dealt with. Assessment of the rents of 177,786 tenants had been made in preceding years, and that of 67,666 tenants was made during the year under report. The result of the settlement of rents during the year was that the aggregate rents

paid by the 67,666 tenants of all degrees, were raised from Rs. 1,35,521 to Rs. 1,80,187. Rents of raiyats in the mass were increased by 7 per cent., of which $\frac{4}{5}$ ths was on account of excess area. Rents of raiyats paying direct to Government were increased by 10 per cent. In the case of 22,336 tenants of all degrees paying rents or revenue direct to Government, the increase made was from Rs. 58,422 to Rs. 76,671, or 31 per cent., and rents were settled in addition for previously unsettled lands to the amount of Rs. 14,168. The result of the settlement operations from the beginning in this district has been to raise the Government revenue of the Noabad lands from Rs. 3,50,940 to Rs. 5,30,121, or by 51 per cent.; and the whole increase of revenue likely to be obtained is estimated by the Settlement Officer as Rs. 1,96,500.

18. The settlement of the Palamau Government estate has now been practically completed, and the Lieutenant-Governor awaits the receipt of the completion report at an early date. The estate comprises 399 villages, exclusive of one mauza under dispute, lying in 18 tuppas, with an area of 181,050 acres, or 283 square miles (exclusive of 11 square miles of jagir or revenue-free land which were not under settlement), measured in 161,352 plots or fields. The settlement was conducted under the provisions of Act VIII (B.C.) of 1879 and on the *uttakar* system (under which rent is paid for every bigha of land within a tenant's holding) instead of on the *pariadari* system (under which up-lands are not assessed). Mr. D. Sunder continued to be in charge of the work till the beginning of February 1897, when he was placed on famine duty. He returned to settlement work in July 1897. The work done during the year consisted chiefly of the distribution to raiyats of *parchas*; explanation to raiyats of the jamabandis published under section 9 of Act VIII (B.C.) of 1879; the revision of boundaries of villages and formation of blocks of protected forest; the compilation of statistics and the preparation of the completion report for the settlement.

The result of the settlement has been to give a rental of Rs. 74,433 as compared with rents settled in 1865, amounting to Rs. 40,892, and against an attested rental of Rs. 57,693 paid to the *thikadars*. The rates of rent are practically the same as those of the last settlement, and the increase is due to extended cultivation. Rs. 3,270 have been settled as the rent of *mahua* trees, and Rs. 10,087 as the rent of *palas* and *kusum* trees. The increase of rental from all sources thus amounts to Rs. 46,947. There was no appeal against the assessment. The new rents were brought into effect from September 1896. The average rents per cultivated acre are—

				Rs.	A.	P.
Settled	rai-yats	...	...	1	3	0
Occupancy	"	...	...	1	6	3
Non-occupancy	"	...	...	0	14	7

The *thikadari* system has been abandoned, and the estate has been brought under khas management. The expenditure of the year on the settlement amounted to Rs. 7,650, and the total cost of the operations, exclusive of survey, is shown by the Settlement Officer as Rs. 43,436. The cost of survey was Rs. 79,165.

19. The area under resettlement in the Darjeeling Terai is 230.15 square miles, consisting of 824 jotes, 91 thirty-year lease grants, 17 market sites, and 3 blocks of khas land. The principal work done during the year was that of assessment. The Government has, as a matter of grace, conceded to the jotedars a limit of enhancement of 50 per cent. on the rents now paid by them. The resettlement of the jotes is expected to result in an increase of 22 per cent. on the existing revenue of Rs. 88,568. In the case of the 30-year grants, it has been found that the provisions of the existing leases which limit the re-assessments to half rates will only allow very small enhancements. The term of the new settlement has been fixed at 20 years, and the new revenue has been brought into effect from the *kist* of January 1898. The expenditure incurred on this settlement up to the end of the year amounted to Rs. 20,240, exclusive of the cost of survey.

20. The Kolhan estate comprises 911 villages with an aggregate area of 1,403·7 square miles. Its settlement was conducted under no specific law, but the procedure adopted followed, as far as possible, the settlement laws in force. The traverse survey of the estate was made by a professional party, but the field survey was supervised by the Settlement Officer, Mr J. A. Craven, who also conducted the settlement proceedings, with the help of two Assistant Settlement Officers of junior rank and under the guidance of the Board. The work done during the year comprised the survey of 173 villages with an area of 281·8 square miles, comprising 8,521 holdings and 151,445 plots; extraction and checking of field areas, comparing *khatians* with *khassras*, copying of the *khatians*, preparation of abstract *khatian*, and *jamabandi*; attestation of *khatians* for 8,521 holdings; calculation of the rents of holdings; preparation of *parchas* and compilation of statistical statements for 173 villages; disposal of 196 boundary disputes, 1,343 jote disputes and 1,414 cases of disputed sales and mortgages; in addition to the work connected with the exclusion and demarcation of the excess protected forests, and enumeration of all fruit trees and all *mahua*, *kusum*, *asan* and *palas* trees in the estate, and preparation of a record of those trees for each village. The only work remaining is the issue of pattas and of records of rights to the *Mankis* and *Mundas*. The former aggregate rents, amounting to Rs. 64,828, have been raised to Rs. 1,77,300, or by 173·5 per cent. The cost of survey and settlement during the year was Rs. 45,312, and the total cost of the operations has been Rs. 1,88,256. The rate of cost per square mile is Rs. 134, and per acre 3 annas and 4½ pies only. This low rate, and the large increase obtained by this settlement, reflect great credit on the Settlement Officer; and, as the Board have observed, it is a satisfactory feature of this large settlement that it has been completed at less cost than was originally estimated.

In the course of the operations the survey and record of rights of 10 *lakhiraj* villages within the boundaries of the estate were made, at the cost of the *lakhirajdars*, under the supervision of the Settlement Officer. A survey of all lands within the Chaibassa Municipality was also made under his supervision.

21. The estates of the Raja of Hill Tippera, in Tippera and Noakhali, known as Chakla Roshnabad, comprise an area of 556·85 square miles, with 1,507 villages. Mr. J. G. Cumming, c.s., was the Settlement Officer throughout the year, up till the 27th July. He resumed charge after the close of the year. Six Assistant Settlement Officers were employed during the year, chiefly on attestation and case work. The completion of the programme for the year was interfered with by the withdrawal of officers for famine work. The records of 600 villages were attested, and the records were wholly draft published in 112 villages and in part in 210, and finally published in 88. During the year the rents of 3,297 raiyats and 277 tenure-holders were settled, resulting in an enhancement of raiyats' rents from Rs. 33,224 to Rs. 39,836, or by 19·8 per cent., and of tenure-holders' rents from Rs. 8,272 to Rs. 13,458, or by 62·6 per cent. The enhancements were made partly on the ground of rise in the price of rice, but mostly on the ground of excess area. Seventy-five appeals against decisions in the fair rent cases were decided, with the result that the decisions of the Settlement Officer and of his assistants were upheld in 61 cases, reversed in 2 cases, and modified in 5 cases, while 7 cases were remanded for rehearing. Two hundred and ninety-eight appeals were pending before the Special Judge in fair rent cases at the end of the year. The Lieutenant-Governor regrets the delay that has occurred in disposal of the settlement appeals, and hopes that the appointment of an Additional Judge made in October 1897 will have the effect of hastening the conclusion of this protracted and difficult settlement. Progress on the settlement continues to be slow, the attitude of the raiyats being reported to be one of stubborn unreasonableness at the outset, followed by mild interest. The statistics tabulated during the year show that out of 54,758 holdings 49,551 are held by settled or occupancy raiyats paying an average rent of Rs. 3-10-9 per acre. The expenditure incurred on settlement work during the year was Rs. 63,005-8-5, the total expenditure down to the end of the year having been Rs. 3,94,816, or at the rate of 17 annas 6 pies an acre so far as the work has gone.

22. Operations in the Gaya district are in progress in the Tikari Ward's estate, the Government estates and the Belkhara mahal, and are under one staff under the general supervision of Mr. Stevenson-Moore. The work in this district is practically at an end, and the final report is awaited.

The area and number of villages under survey are as follows:—

Name of estate.	Area in square miles.	Number of villages.
1	2	3
1. Tikari Ward's estate ...	384.63	551
2. Government estates ...	102.00	118
3. Belkhara mahal ...	97.28	89
Total ...	583.91	758

The survey and record-writing of the Tikari Ward's estate were completed during 1895-96, and the following work was done in this and the Belkhara estate (which is partly the property of Government and partly of the Tikari Ward) during the year under report:—

Village boundary disputes decided under Survey Act.	RECORDS ATTESTED FOR—			Rents settled for tenants.	Draft records published for villages.	Objections under section 105 decided and considered.	Disputes under section 105 decided.	Records finally published.
	Villages.	Square miles.	Tenants.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3	93	101.35	9,797	12	93	557	18	145

The work done during the year in the Government estates was as follows:—

Records attested for—		Rents settled for tenants.	Draft records published for villages.	Objections under section 105 disposed of.	Final records published for villages.
Square miles.	Tenants.				
12.84	615	427	68	73	102

Rents were settled for 3,280 tenants in all in Government villages; for 451 tenants existing rents were retained as fair; for 26 tenants rents were settled *ex parte*, and 3,254 tenants accepted the rents settled. In the 103 villages dealt with rents have been raised in the aggregate from Rs. 52,040 to Rs. 55,763, or by 9.33 per cent. In 961 holdings contained in 40 villages produce rents have been commuted to cash rents to the amount of Rs. 10,651. The average size of a tenancy is about 7 acres in each estate. The soil of the Government estate is by far the least fertile, and this estate also comprises the greatest quantity of waste land. The average rates of rent paid by occupancy and non-occupancy raiyats are—

	Occupancy raiyats.				Non-occupancy raiyats.		
	Rs.	A.	P.		Rs.	A.	P.
Tikari estates ...	...	4	4	4 per acre.	2	11	11 per acre.
Government estates ...	...	3	5	9 „	1	9	9 „
Belkhara mahal ...	...	4	9	1 „	5	9	9 „

The high rates in the Belkhara mahal are due to the fertility of the land. It is a noticeable fact that non-occupancy raiyats on the Tikari and Government estates pay at lower rates than occupancy raiyats; the reason alleged is the inferior quality of the land held by them.

The following statement compares the percentages of rent-paying tenants according to status:—

NAME OF ESTATE.	Total number of raiyats.	Percentage of raiyats at fixed rate.	Percentage of occupancy raiyats	Percentage of non-occupancy raiyats.
1	2	3	4	5
1. Tikari Ward's estate ...	31,257	5.8	89.9	4.3
2. Government estates ...	6,137	0.4	86.3	13.3
3. Belkhara mahal ...	8,003	0.26	91.5	8.2

23. The following statement shows the progress of operations and the cost incurred in the smaller surveys and settlements dealt with by the Superintendent of Settlement-Surveys and by the Director of Land Records during the year:—

Estates.	Number of villages.	Area in square miles.	SURVEY.		SETTLEMENT.					Total cost of survey and settle- ment to end of the year.
			Traverse during 1896-97.	Cadastral during 1896-97.	Attestation number of villages.		Settlement of fair rent to end of the year.			
					During 1896-97.	To end of 1896-97.	Number of tenants.	Former rental.	New rental.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<i>Government estates.</i>										
1. Pataspur estates in Midna- pore.	96	54.7	.....	Sq. miles.	.....	96	15,062	51,242	63,419	50,140
2. Jaipur estates in Bogra ...	156	55.5	.....	.....	126	247	5,766	39,233	51,051	41,820
3. Backergunge estates ...	31	61.93	.....	4.62	1	30	6,232	1,54,290	1,78,967	42,927
4. Noakhali " ...	11	97.00	.....	97.00	.....	...	.....	.....	51,035*	51,035*
5. Shahabad " ...	20	18.32	.....	.....	.....	20	959	19,784	22,926	3,374
Total ...	314	287.45	.....	101.62	127	393	28,018	2,64,549	3,16,363	1,69,299
<i>Private estates.</i>										
1. Chaurasi estate in 24-Parganas	43	33	.....	.....	.....	43	14,377	21,878	28,595	18,969
2. Gangamanda in Tippera ...	4	2.69	.....	.....	1	4	162	1,133	1,367	1,091
3. Palpara " ...	11	3.19	.....	.....	.....	11	231	.....	.....	2,653
4. Tantibunia in Khulna ...	8	19.95	.....	.....	.....	8	156	10,232	12,967	11,575
5. Chiknikandi in Backergunge	17	27.24	.....	.....	2	9	1,455	.....	.....	6,516
Total ...	83	86.07	.....	.....	3	75	16,381	33,241	42,929	41,404
<i>Wards' estates.</i>										
1. Narhan estate in Monghyr ...	60	48.19	.....	.....	60	60	50	1,263	1,378	21,228
GRAND TOTAL ...	457	421.71	.....	.....	190	528	44,449	2,99,053	3,60,670	2,31,931

* Includes cost of topographical survey of other estates with an area of 345 square miles.

24. Record-writing, attestation and settlement of fair rents in the Pataspur temporarily-settled estates had been completed in previous years. During the year under report, khatians of the under-tenants, of *bazyafidars*, of under-raiyats, and of raiyats of nij-jote lands, were prepared and attested in 96 villages, khatians were published in draft for all those villages except one, and rents were settled for 4,938 such tenants. Under section 105, 2,850 objections were disposed of and 10 disputes under section 106 were decided. The final publication of the records was made for 88 villages, and the police *paikan* lands were assessed. It has been decided to take as Government revenue 65 per cent. of the assets ascertained at the present settlement, leaving the balance of 35 per cent. to the proprietors. The result of this assessment will be to raise the present Government revenue of Rs. 34,078 by Rs. 6,700, or 18 per cent. The term of the new settlement has been fixed at 15 years. The work has not made altogether satisfactory progress, but the unhealthiness of the locality is against it.

25. In the Jaipur Government Estates records for 126 villages, with an area of 49.9 square miles, were attested and re-attested in the year under report. Rents were settled for 5,766 tenants during the year in the Government estates and for 220 tenants on the application of the landlords of a private estate comprised in the villages under survey. The result of the settlement, as reported at the end of September, has been that existing rents payable to Government, aggregating Rs. 39,233, have been raised to Rs. 51,051; in the private estate, rents aggregating Rs. 927 have been raised to Rs. 1,162. The general principle followed in fixing the present rates which show great inequalities has been to equalise them on the general legal basis of the rise in the price of rice. Records were published in draft for 155 villages and finally for 119 villages during the year. The Settlement Officer during the year disposed of 610 objections preferred after draft publication, leaving 13 ending at the end of the year; no disputes under section 106 were instituted.

26. There were seven Government estates and temporarily-settled estates, with an aggregate area of 39,632 acres, or 61.93 square miles, under settlement under the Bengal Tenancy Act in the district of Backergunge during the year, in addition to the settlement under the old Regulations, of 51 petty estates with an aggregate area of 22 square miles. During the year the settlement operations were completed in the estates Padma Manesha, Heshamuddin and Krishnapura, and completion reports were submitted. In Tushkhali rents were settled and the records published in draft, and in Kalupara the survey and initial record-writing were completed.

27. Fifteen Government estates in Shahabad, covering 18 square miles and containing 20 villages, were under settlement under Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act. Survey, record-writing and attestation were completed before the year under report, but the records were re-attested during the year. Rents of all the 958 rent-paying tenants in the estates were settled, the former rental of Rs. 19,784 being raised, almost entirely on the ground of rise of prices, to Rs. 22,926. No appeals were preferred to the Special Judge. For 14 out of the 15 estates records were finally published before the close of the year 1304 *Fasli* (11th September 1897).

28. *Chaurasi estate in the 24-Parganas.*—The Chaurasi Estate in the 24-Parganas comprises 43 villages, with an area of 20,399 acres. Its settlement was undertaken on the application of the proprietors, Maharaja Durga Charan Law and others. Survey, *kharsa*-writing and attestation of records were completed in previous years. Rents for 697 out of 800 tenancies held direct from the proprietor have been settled, and final publication of records for all villages was made between September and December 1896. The total rent payable to the proprietors was raised from Rs. 21,876 to Rs. 28,595, or by 30 per cent., by assessment of excess area and by enhancement of the abnormally low rents in some parts of the estate. The Lieutenant-Governor regrets the delay that has occurred in the disposal of appeals to the Special Judge. Out of 191 such appeals, only 12 had been decided up to 30th September 1897. The total cost of survey and settlement was Rs. 19,052, or 14 annas 2 pies per acre.

29. *Tantibania estate in Khulna.*—The only work done during the year was the disposal of 2 cases under section 104 and 5 cases under section 106 of the Tenancy Act remanded in appeal by the Special Judge. This necessitated the republication in draft of portions of the records of 4 villages and final publication for a second time of portions of 5 villages.

The settlement work in other private estates during the year does not call for special remark.

30. *Dakhin Shahbazpur and Srirampur estates in Backergunge.*—The settlement work in these estates was completed before the year under report. Sums aggregating Rs. 14,725 and Rs. 6,873 were recovered in Dakhin Shahbazpur and Srirampur during the year, leaving balances of Rs. 3,106 and Rs. 81 only to be recovered out of Rs. 78,261 and Rs. 9,426. The Lieutenant-Governor agrees with the Director of Land Records that the results of the recovery work were satisfactory.

31. *Narhan estate in Monghyr*.—Little work remains to be done in the Narhan estate, but the work during the year under report was interfered with by the fact that the services of the Settlement Officer were required for famine duty. Sixty villages with an area of 48·19 square miles were surveyed and kharanpuried in 1895-96; and during the year under report records for these villages, which contain 11,097 tenants, were attested, rents were settled for 50 tenants, records were published in draft for 28 villages, and two objections under section 105 of the Tenancy Act were disposed of.

32. A Bill to amend sections 30, 31, 39, 52 and 119 and Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act, VIII of 1885, was introduced in the Bengal Legislative Council on 3rd April 1897, the changes proposed being to clear up doubts and difficulties of procedure which have arisen in the course of experience in the working of Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act, 1885; to facilitate the settlement of rents when undertaken on a large scale either for the purpose of settling land revenue or on the application of private individuals; to amend the substantive law relating to the enhancement and reduction of rents, so as to make certain provisions of the law workable, and to give effect to the intention of its authors regarding certain points on which, owing to want of sufficient clearness in the wording of the law or to the interpretations put on it by the Civil Courts, it has been found in practice to be inoperative. The Bill was published in the *Calcutta Gazette* and circulated for opinion among Revenue and Judicial Officers, the Chambers of Commerce and the different public Associations. On receipt of these opinions a revised Bill was prepared, and has been passed by the Bengal Council.

34. Mr. W. C. Macpherson has recently vacated the post of Director of Land Records, which he had filled with marked ability and credit since 1892, and the Lieutenant-Governor fully agrees with the praise bestowed by the Board upon the zeal, energy and devotion with which he has worked, and upon the successful results which he has achieved during the period of his incumbency. The magnitude of the work done by the Settlement Department in Bengal and Bihar since the passing of the Tenancy Act is obscured by the fact of its being done so quietly and with so little friction, but its extent will be understood from the fact that in the year under review an area of more than 22,000 square miles was under survey and record-of-rights and that rents were settled for more than a million tenants in this one year. For the results achieved the Director of Land Records and the Settlement Officers deserve the warm thanks of Government. His Honour also desires to thank Captain Crichton, Superintendent of Settlement-Surveys, and Captain Symonds for the excellent work done by them during the year. With regard to the other officers named in paragraphs 50 and 51 of the Director of Land Records' Report (a copy of which will be communicated to the Appointment Department), Sir Alexander Mackenzie cordially endorses the following remarks made by the Director of Land Records:—

"The Settlement Officers and Assistant Settlement Officers below named rendered specially good service during the year, viz., Messrs. C. G. H. Allen, A. S. Carey, J. G. Cumming, M. Gauntlett, R. Hughes, J. Kerr, D. S. Kingsford, H. McPherson, S. L. Maddox, C. J. Stevenson-Moore, W. B. Thomson, J. Webster, Babu Rai Krishna Bahadur, Babu Prasanna Kumar Banerjee, Babu Sriram Chandra Basu, Babu Pyari Mohan Basu, Babu Sri Gopal Bhattacharjya, Babu Durga Charan Ghose, Maulvi Gholam Ghous, Babu Gobind Chandra Das Gupta, Maulvi Ashfaq Husain, Pandit Rama Ballabh Misra, Babu Jogendra Narayan Mitra, Mr. J. Taylor.

"Mr. Allen, Settlement Officer of Chittagong, has an exceptional knowledge of revenue work; he has carried out the settlement of Chittagong with great success. Mr. Maddox, who holds in Orissa the most difficult and most responsible settlement post in the Province, continues to do excellent work. He has pushed on the work of settling rents with great success, and he is now ably and thoroughly dealing with the work of assessing the land revenue. Mr. C. J. Stevenson-Moore supervises settlement work in five Bihar districts with great ability and complete grasp of the principles and details of the work. I would desire to call special attention to Mr. Stevenson-Moore's well-written and interesting reports. Mr. Cumming in Tippera by tact and ability has overcome obstructions and difficulties; Mr. Cumming is conspicuous for his sound and well thought out methods of work and for his attention to details."

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

M. FINUCANE,

Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

No. 1521.

Copy forwarded to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Land Revenue Department, for the information of the Board, with reference to his letter No. 71A., dated 15th January 1898, and for communication to the Director of Land Records, the Superintendent of Settlement Surveys, all Commissioners of Divisions, District Officers and Settlement Officers.

No. 1522.

Copy forwarded to the Deputy Surveyor-General in charge, Revenue Branch, Survey of India, for information.

No. 1523.

Copy, with a copy of the Report of the Director of Land Records, forwarded to the Appointment Department of this Government for information, with special reference to paragraph 34 above.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

H. WHEELER,

Offg. Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

CALCUTTA;

REVENUE DEPT.—*Land Revenue,*

The 11th April 1898.





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